

Intimations.

DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA,
LIMITED,
DISPENSING CHEMISTS, &c.

LONDON, HONGKONG AND AMOY.

AGENTS FOR
DR. PAUL'S MANICURE
SPECIALITIES.

"CERAMINE" for tinting finger tips, face, and lips, per pot \$1.
"POUDRE LUSTRALE" gives a brilliant shell-like transparency to the nails, per box \$1.
"EMERY BOARDS" for bevelling the rough edges of the nails after use of the file, etc. 50.
"ORANGE WOOD STICKS." A valuable novelty introduced under Dr. Paul's system of Manicure to apply the "Cleansing Fluid" under the free margin of nails and thus avoid the danger of scratching with steel instruments, etc. 50.
"NAIL OLEATE" preserves and gives a brilliant polish to the nails and prevents hangnails, etc., etc. 75.
"CLEANSING FLUID" instantly removes all stains from the surface and underneath the nails, per bot. \$1.

(Telephone No. 60.)

Nos. 22 & 24, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
Hongkong, 20th July, 1891.

BY APPOINTMENT.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

(ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.)
HONGKONG.

WE invite attention to the following old London House, and bought direct from the most noted Shippers, are imported in wood and bottled by ourselves, thus enabling us to supply the best goods at moderate prices.

In ordering it is only necessary to state the name and quantity of Wine or Spirit wanted, and initial letter for quality desired.

Orders through Local Post or by Telegram receive prompt attention.

PORTS. (For Invalids and general use.)

	Per Case	Per Bot.
A. Alto Douro, good quality, Green Capsule	10	1.00
B. Vintage, Superior quality, Red Capsule	12	1.10
C. Fine Old Vintage, superior quality, Black Seal Capsule	14	1.25
D. Very Fine Old Vintage, extra superior, Violet Capsule (Old Bottled)	18	1.50

	Per Case	Per Bot.
SHERRIES.		
A. Delicate Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Capsule	6	0.60
B. Superior Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Seal Capsule	7.50	0.75
C. Manzana, Pale Natural Sherry, White Capsule	10	1.00
CC. Superior Old Dry, Pale Natural Sherry, Red Seal Capsule	10	1.00
D. Very Superior Old Pale Dry, choice old wine, White Seal Capsule	14	1.50
E. Extra Superior Old Pale Dry, very finest quality, Black Seal Capsule (Old Bottled)	14	1.50

	Per Case	Per Bot.
CLARETS.		
A. Superior Breakfast Claret, Red Capsule	4.50	0.45
B. St. Estephe, Red Capsule	4	0.40
C. St. Julien	7	0.70
D. La Rose	11	1.10

	Per Case	Per Bot.
BRANDY.		
A. Hennessy's Old Pale, Red Capsule	12	1.10
B. Superior Very Old Cognac, Red Capsule	14	1.25
C. Very Old Liqueur Cognac, Red Capsule	18	1.50
D. Hennessy's Finest Very Old Liqueur Cognac, 1875 Vintage, Red Capsule	24	2.00

	Per Case	Per Bot.
SCOTCH WHISKY.		
A. Thorne's Blend, White Capsule	8	0.75
B. Watson's Glenlivet Mellow Blend, Blue Capsule with Name and Trade Mark	8	0.75
C. Watson's Aboulo-Glenlivet, Red Capsule, with Name and Trade Mark	8	0.75
D. Watson's H. K. D. Blend of the Finest Scotch Malt Whiskies, Violet Capsule	10	1.00
E. Watson's Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky, Gold Capsule	12	1.10

	Per Case	Per Bot.
IRISH WHISKY.		
A. John Jameson's Old, Green Capsule	8	0.75
B. John Jameson's Fine Old, Green Capsule	10	1.00
C. John Jameson's Very Fine Old, Green Capsule	12	1.10
D. JOHNSON'S BOURBON WHISKY, Fine Old, Red Capsule, with Name	10	1.00

	Per Case	Per Bot.
GIN.		
A. Fine Old Tom, White Capsule	4.50	0.45
B. Fine Unsweetened, White Capsule	4.50	0.45
C. Fine A. V. H. Geneva	5.25	0.50

	Per Case	Per Bot.
RUM.		
Finest Old Jamaica, Violet Capsule	12	1.00
Good Leonard Island, \$1.50 per Gallon.		

	Per Case	Per Bot.
LIQUEURS.		
Benedictine	Maraschino	
Curaçao	Hermit's Cherry Cordial	
Chartreuse	Dr. Siger's Angostura Bitters, &c.	

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

SUBSCRIBERS TO "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" ARE MOST REMOVEDLY REMINDED THAT ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1891.

MEDICAL MISSIONS IN CHINA.

EVERYONE must deplore that an Institution of such usefulness as the Canton Medical Mission Hospital should have suffered the loss of its funds and be left stranded by the collapse of the old-established firm of RUSSELL & Co., which firm took a leading part in the creation of the Hospital, and an active interest in its success. If we recollect correctly the Medical Mission Hospital at Canton was established under the superintendence of Dr. PETER PARKER in 1835, succeeding a temporary one formed earlier in the century, at Macao, under Doctors MORRISON and SAMUEL BROWN. Whatever difference of opinion there may be in regard to the Missionary question, there can be none in regard to the benefit which Medical Missions confer on the Chinese generally. Take the one referred to as an example (which has been so ably and beneficently presided over for many years past by Dr. KERR) and it cannot be denied that the benefits which it has conferred on the people are recognized throughout the whole of Southern China, by native and foreigner alike. Second only to it in benevolent usefulness is that presided over by Dr. WENTON at Fatsan, which has been so admirably conducted that this year Dr. WENTON has had the satisfaction of announcing that it is now self-supporting. The pioneers of this briefly sketched benevolent branch of Christian ethics, men like MORRISON, PARKER, BROWN, HERBURN, HOBSON, etc., etc., with those above mentioned, must always stand forth as true benefactors of mankind in the Far East, and be far removed from the jibes and jeers so easily made at the expense of Missionaries following in the true steps of their Divine instructor. There are black sheep in every fold, and in some of the Treaty ports as well as at other places, we witness men under the shield of their sacred cloth acquiring land or property for personal aggrandizement, oblivious to all the tenets of the religion of which they profess to be living examples. Is it fair that the Missionary cause should be exposed to these jeers because a few prove themselves unworthy followers of a grand faith? Yet it is popular to decry the Missionary everywhere. Missions are supported by private and gratuitous contributions, by those who have faith in the proselytizing principle, and however we may think this erroneous, they have as much right to their opinion as we have to ours; and are entitled to expend their money whichever way they like. We are not asked to contribute; our assistance is not solicited; our business is not interfered with. The Missionaries persevere in their self-allotted tasks, unostentatiously as a rule, and unobtrusively work out the problem that they have set themselves to. So far as a pretty extensive experience goes we have never seen any harm done by their efforts, however much we may question the amount of success they achieve, but as to the Medical branch, the good done by it is undoubted and almost incalculable. Suffering and pain are relieved gratis by every means possible, and all this without interference to the patients' religious views, so that it appeals to that sense of gratitude which makes the true Medical profession, in our opinion, the most sublime on earth, and associates its humanizing and softening influence upon a common humanity. This is the reward of the Medical Mission labourer. Their work is not confined to one sex only, but the women, a class throughout the Orient bound round by the most rigorous ties of seclusion, are brought within its benevolent and soothing influence. How far this is proved a perusal of the Reports of the Canton and Fatsan Missionary reports for last year will show. These we purpose publishing in a few days, together with some further comments. In the meantime we appeal in the strongest manner to our fellow citizens to come in its hour of need to the rescue of an Institution so separably bound up with the history of Foreign settlement in China, and which has contributed in a silent, but in no small degree towards the present position now occupied by Foreigners in China.

TELEGRAMS.

OUTBREAK OF CHOLERA.

Cholera has broken out at Jeddah and Aleppo and is still raging at Mecca; there are two hundred deaths daily in the latter city.

A collision between excursion trains occurred at St. Maude, a suburb of Paris; forty-two passengers were killed outright and over one hundred injured; many of them fatally; the railway carriages afterwards ignited and a number of passengers were burned alive; the scenes were of a terrible and distressing nature.

On leaving Constantinople the French squadron now visiting there will proceed direct to Port-au-Prince, where spontaneous arrangements are being made.

being actively carried out in order to give the fleet a fitting reception.

BELGIUM.

August 4th.

The Queen is dangerously ill and has received the last Sacrament.

SPAIN.

A movement in favour of a Republic has taken place, and numerous arrests have been made.

(Special to the Hongkong Telegraph.)

CANTON, August 6th.

The telegraph line between Hongkong and Canton, which has been interrupted since the typhoon, has been restored as far as Hungnam (Kowloon Docks). Complete restoration is expected to be effected to-day. Telegrams may be sent from Hungnam Station.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE Superintendent of the P. & O. S. N. Co. informs us that the Company's steamer *Canton* left Shanghai for Hongkong this morning.

We are informed by the Agents (Messrs. Arnold, Karberg & Co.) that the China Shipper's Mutual S. N. Co.'s steamer *Opbach*, from London and Liverpool, left Singapore yesterday for this port, and may be expected on, or about, the 11th inst.

HONGKONG has been saved, at least so think the two female scouts from the Salvation Army, who have been preaching the doctrine of purity at Singapore for some months past. They sailed from the latter place to open fire on Penang last week.

THE first prosecution under the new Sunday Ordinance was to have been conducted at the Magistrate's today, but it was postponed until Saturday for the attendance of Capt. Stavers of the *Paisley*, who is charged with having allowed cargo to be worked on board his vessel on the "Loards Day."

ACCORDING to the monthly statement of the Caisse of the Egyptian Public Debt, the amount encashed last month for the service of the Unified Debt was £235,000, and for the Preference Debt £212,000. The total amounts encashed since the payment of the last coupons are £284,000 and £244,000 respectively.

THE Band of the A. & S. Highlanders will play the following programme at the Barrack Square, this evening, commencing at 7.30 o'clock:—
March "The Tartan Toss" (Kemp).
Waltz "The Merry Widow" (Kemp).
Polka "The Merry Widow" (Kemp).
Gigue "The Merry Widow" (Kemp).
Gigue "The Merry Widow" (Kemp).

THE new Directorate deal of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has resulted in transforming Mr. H. L. Dalrymple, the ex-Chairman and Director, into Superintending Auditor. We confess we know not the precise qualifications of Mr. Dalrymple for the post, but suppose they are of such a nature as to carry overwhelming conviction into every breast in Hongkong and elsewhere.

THE *Stam Mercantile Gazette* says that not a single member of the Foreign Consular body was present at the late so-called turning of Siam's first railway. This is indeed passing strange and it seems rather difficult to believe such a statement, coming as it does from a source that is so eminently reliable. The *Gazette* is so conspicuous in this direction that it sticks out as a "crank" of the well, first water.

WE are in receipt from Dr. Kerr of Canton, of the admirable Report of the working of "The Medical Missionary Society in China" for the past year, and we shall have pleasure in a few days of reviewing this, together with that of its sister establishment under Dr. WENTON at Fatsan, when we trust to be able to convince, even the most obtuse, that Medical Missions have a sphere of usefulness their comprehension has failed to grasp.

THE O. & S. steamship *Gallie* was safely docked at the Cosmopolitan Dock last night, for her periodical examination. It was found that it only required a broom to sweep off any attachments, before she was in perfect condition to be re-painted. This says much in favour of the advance science in making in this direction, when "International" and similar compounds for the coatings of Ocean steamers' bottoms, are found so efficacious.

INTELLIGENCE was recently received in London, from Marcellus, to the effect that a merchant of Beyrout named Bayhor had obtained a firman from the Sultan of Turkey permitting him to construct a railway from that town to Damascus, in order to counterbalance the influence of the English Company, which has received the concession for a line from Calcutta to Damascus. A Belgian Company has been authorized to run steam trams from Damascus to Hama, while another English company is endeavoring to obtain a concession for a railway between Alexandria and Aleppo with a view to forming a connection with Bagdad and Suesorah.

NEWS from Acheen says that on the 8th ult., a detachment of mounted infantry, when on the way to lay an ambush for the Achinese, were suddenly surprised by a force of the latter five times their number, who poured into them a shower of bullets from front and rear. The commander of the detachment was killed, and his men were scattered in all directions. The Achinese were then fired into them. The action lasted for 15 minutes when the Achinese fell back, leaving many dead and wounded on the field. In other respects the situation remains unchanged in Acheen.

EARLY this month, says the *Starbays Chronicle*, steps were taken in that city to start a petroleum syndicate. The trade in that article there has exclusively fallen into the hands of Chinese, among whom keen competition has lately kept prices down, and led to many importers losing heavily. The untoward turn of affairs resulted in the dealers looking forward to setting up a company styled "The Petroleum Kongsi of East Java," and they have fixed upon a day this month to meet and to settle the arrangements for the new enterprise. The proposed syndicate aims at taking over all the petroleum on the market at a fixed price, and at restricting imports to meet the local demand.

We regret to hear that the Canton Hospital is not the only sufferer by the old firm of Russell and Company disappearing from its time-honored position in China, for it is said the well-known Howqua family are losers to a large extent through investments made by the head of the family in "old China" days, when Victoria Ltd. destroyed the \$300,000 worth of Opium at the Bogota. Where were the Samsuns in those old times? Some may ask? Well, though the Samsuns were not to the front then, in the old days we find that this distinguished firm confined its operations to Bagdad and India. Even Dr. Jardine had not yet appeared on the scene to lay the Opium foundations of the "Piquety House."

ACCORDING to last advice sugar prices in Java were declining, and planters looked with apprehension to the future. The crop there this year amounts to 800,000 piculs more than last year, and reaches six-and-a-half millions of piculs.

GOOD news has been received here concerning Charbonnages, which Company we wish all success. We are to see some of its black diamonds, for a "full due" on the market shortly, which will practically knock into the dust all those (anything but disinterested) cavaliers who have made it such a feat of revelling lately, although most probably they know about as much of the undertaking as our new importation—a real Jerusalem jacks, Ah!

A LONDON contemporary learns with regret that Mrs. Besant has determined practically to withdraw herself from the unique work of usefulness in which she has been engaged in useful years, in order to devote her time and ability to what many regard as the superstition of Theosophy, of which the late arch-priestess was the Russian adventuress Blavatsky. In her matured years Mrs. Besant has become entangled in this mystic web. It is hoped that the influence of her name will lead no one to waste a moment on a mischievous delusion—one more of the many delusions with which the world has been bungled from time immemorial. Against these at one time there was no more doughty warrior than Mrs. Besant herself. The pity of it!

AN inquest was held before Mr. A. G. Wise at the Magistrate's this afternoon, on the body of a boat-woman named Fung Kiu. Dr. Marques gave evidence as to the result of the post mortem examination which he had made. He testified that there were a few abrasions on the body, but in his opinion they had been caused by drowning. Chan Kwai, a boat-woman, testified that she saw the deceased, who was in a boat alone, fall into the water and witness believed that some soldiers had caught hold of the deceased and had pulled her into the water. Joseph Phipps, R.A., stated that he was on garrison police duty at the R.E. Pier, whilst bathing was going on in the water opposite. Just prior to leaving he heard cries and saw a runner named Harper jump into the water from off the pier, and swim out to the deceased's sloop, but he was too late to afford any assistance. A soldier named Miles gave corroborative evidence, and the case was then adjourned until to-morrow.

HERE is a good sample of reporting, from a Melbourne paper:—"The crime wave sweeps steadily onwards, now and then lashed into hurricane blasts of bloodshed. Witness the tragedy on the Narren River, in New South Wales, the other day. Peter Murray is at work erecting a shed, when he looks round and sees Kemp, the new hand, advancing towards him on hands and knees, carrying a heavy axe. Murray tries out to him to stop, a swift thought coming to him that there is murder in the air; but Kemp does stop, and only to fall savagely on old William Austin, who is coming out of his house, and hack him savagely to death with his axe. Then the lust for slaughter rises unchecked in Kemp and he turns on Murray as his next sacrifice. But Murray is a man of cool resolution, so he shouts to his little son to run into the house and bring out his gun. Only just promptly enough. He levels the weapon, and Kemp, instead of running amuck, is prone with a bullet in his heart." How we sigh for the services of the brilliant genius who penned the above, and wish that we had him on the *Telegraph*, at the present juncture.

ANOTHER attempt at raising H.M.S. *Tweed* was made last night with four lighters lashed alongside, possessing some thousands of tons buoyancy, but it did not come off. This morning, however, we notice that the Naval Hospital ship had been hauled alongside for a final attempt. If this does not succeed, the Naval authorities will either have to fall back on "tenders" to raise her, or get rid of her by public auction. The Dock Company has already been intended upon for some of the appliances used, and if the authorities had put the matter in those experienced hands the outset, they would have done wisely. If we for one moment consider the capabilities of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. under the present able superintendence of Mr. David Gillies, and that every vessel within reasonable distance of this port, of any size, which has been taken in hand in time, has been successfully raised, we feel justly proud of our local institution. As regards the *Tweed*, if her bottom only holds out, a Canton or Whampoa rigger will get her afloat and into Dock in a fortnight, let alone our very own representative establishment.

The wonderful accounts given by Mr. H. M. Stanley about dwarf tribes in Equatoria roused public curiosity as to these diminutive people, and Mr. W. Cross, the Liverpool naturalist, at once gave orders to his agents to obtain if possible a good specimen of this peculiar race. After a lengthy search a remarkable female dwarf was procured in Africa, where she was brought from the native tribe and sent to the Jamaica Exhibition by Mr. Cross's agent for show purposes, attracting great attention there. When the Exhibition closed the dwarf was brought to England, and a few days ago Mr. Cross was surprised to receive a telegram from his agent reading, "Come immediately; dwarf here; cannot do with this sort of ballet." Mr. Cross at once started for London, and took the dwarf safely to Liverpool. She is just 36 in. in height, well developed, jet black complexion, and has a peculiar monkeyish expression, her nose being almost flat with her face. In Jamaica she was taught to speak English, and now converses freely with all comers. In Jamaica, too, the dwarf was taught to smoke, and she has developed an alarming partiality for good cigars.

Mr. J. Anderson, the popular and energetic Hon. Secretary of the H.K. Rifle Association, has requested us to remind members that during the discontinuance of the usual weekly competitions, they are requested to endeavor to practice over the 200, 300 and 600 yards distances in view of the Inter-port "triangular" rifle match, proposed to take place in November next. As an incentive in this direction a prize (silver cup or plate) will be given to the compiler of the highest aggregate in not less than five complete practices over these ranges. Members to be eligible must, however, consent to hand to the Secretary regularly, all their scores (good, bad and indifferent), made from time to time. Blatant conditions must be observed, i.e.—8 inch ball at 200 yards; 4 inch ball at 300 and 600 yards. Position—Standing or kneeling at 200 yards. Sitting, kneeling or prone at 300 yards and at 600 yards. One sighting shot and seven rounds at each range. Accompanying such score a declaration is required to be handed to the Secretary to the effect that the above conditions have been strictly adhered to and in no manner exceeded. It is hoped that a goodly number of members may show their interest in the Association and its welfare by joining in these competitions, the scores made in which will, to an extent be taken into account when the team for the above match is being selected. The days and hours for practice are left entirely to the competitors' convenience and their own signatures to the scores will be considered a sufficient guarantee of truth.

A SINGAPORE contemporary says that, owing to the dry season, river communication in Pahang has been most difficult, and several of the Raub boats are laid up. The mining prospects at Raub are at present good; but there will be much difficulty for some time to come in getting new machinery up. Meanwhile the dryness of the season helps forward exploring operations by primitive methods.

ACCORDING to a Return just laid upon the table of the House of Commons, the total revenue of the Church of England is £5,469,171 from ancient endowments, and £384,386 from private bounty since 1703. The ancient endowments of the Archbishop and Episcopal Sees amount to £87,837; of cathedral and collegiate churches, £192,460; of ecclesiastical benefices, £3,941,057; and of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, £1,249,837. The income of the Archbishop and Episcopal Sees from private bounty (since 1703) is £1,081, that of the ecclesiastical benefices being £772,605. The income from Queen Anne's Bounty is £70,000, and yet Anglican Hongkongers require special grants, etc., for the up-keep of their religious establishments. Churches now-a-days appear to be run on strict commercial principles.

We to-day conclude the second article on "The Truth about the Mekong Valley" which we feel sure will be read with interest. In view of the important political part which Siam seems destined to play in the Far East, and the evident desire of France to encroach upon the country, it should be clear to all Englishmen that they require to be extremely vigilant concerning the general drift of M. de Lanesan's policy, who, as Governor General of Tong-King, represents a Power which does not wish our colonial expansion with any great amount of friendliness. With regard to Hongkong's interests in the port, we may mention that last year the imports from Siam to this port exceeded \$10,000,000, while the exports amounted to nearly \$3,000,000. These facts alone form a sufficient reason for our giving such prominence to the matter, without our pointing out that French aspirations to Siam may, in the not very remote future, have a very direct bearing on our Indian Empire.

The following para. from *Artis* is quite worthy reproduction. The Faraday Centenary.—The Prince of Wales presided last week at the Baccarat Centenary—I should say the Faraday Centenary. He felt a little hurt at some of the names of the other fellows present. Sir A. Campbell, Professor Dewar, Sir G. Stokes, Sir S. Waterlow, Fellow, D. Playfair, and Sir J. Fyfe, Professor Crookes, were all painfully suggestive. And he thought there was no call either for the Dr. Priestly interference. The Prince's speech ran somewhat thus in reality, although the papers have paraphrased it very freely. "I can well remember that less than a year ago I had the high privilege of presiding at a meeting at Tranby Croft. The meeting was not a very large one, and was composed of a very mixed lot. Amongst others present on the occasion, I remember were General W. Owen Williams, young Mr. Wilson, and others, one of whom has since, I regret to say, passed away. As for myself personally, I feel proud to think that after racing and driving, the Greens and Wilsons used to attend at baccarat lectures, and every one will testify to the admirable and lucid manner in which I delivered those lectures to those who were my boys. I have only now to beg Lord Rayleigh to give me his address." Lord Rayleigh was understood to decline giving his address on the grounds that he didn't play the game, hadn't a proper table and that his house was full up at present.

MEETING OF THE BRITISH MERCANTILE MARINE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION.

A special meeting of the British Mercantile Marine Officers' Association was held at the Association's Rooms, College Chambers, last evening for the purpose of hearing an address from Hon. J. J. Kerwick on the Sunday Cargoworking Ordinance. The Hon. gentleman however, did not put in an appearance, but in a letter of apology excused himself on the grounds that he doubted whether much more could be usefully said about the Ordinance for restricting Sunday labour in Hongkong Harbour. The Ordinance had now become an accomplished fact and he hoped sincerely that it would become a boon to all members of the mercantile marine and in no respect operate with harshness where the interests of other people were concerned. A letter of excuse was also read from Commander Hastings, who had been invited to attend, but whom a long standing engagement prevented. He congratulated the Association upon the success it had achieved. The Colony was also to be congratulated that the stigma of white slavery was now removed. Singapore in that respect occupied a unique position, which to judge by that day's paper it would shortly lose. The slight soreness among a small collection of shipowners at this port would speedily wear off and the British Mercantile Marine Officers' Association be looked upon as being benefactors by many others besides the seafaring community.

At the cordial invitation of the meeting, the Seamen's Chaplain, Rev. A. G. Gurney Goldsmith, made the following pointed and sensible address:—
Since you have always been very kind and courteous in acknowledging the services which I have been in any way able to accord towards the great object of obtaining for the port of Hongkong the benefit of a Sunday rest, and since you have asked me to address you on this happy occasion of the Ordinance having become law, I hope you will kindly bear with me in the few words I have to say about it. And first I would remind you though there is not much fear of the members of the Mercantile Marine who have heard the port during the last five years, I was, I am, you yourselves of the Merchant Service, have by dint of perseverance and determination obtained this great boon. Those who have taken a leading part in bringing the question of Sunday labour in the first instance before the public and Government have done so expressly as your mouthpiece. The cry against the working on Sunday in port has been no pumped up agitation; it has been the utterance of hundreds of right-thinking men. You have carried on your endeavour for this desired object with laudable self-reliance and you have shown the community of this Colony and you have shown the world that when you wish to have a grievance remedied you could go about your agitation in a sensible and straightforward manner, showing the bulldog's stubbornness but not his teeth, and quietly requesting that your case might be considered. You are much to be congratulated that you have had so much assistance as you have had from the Press both at home and abroad, from other sympathizers who are interested in your welfare, I may mention the name of Commander Dawson of the Church Mission to Seamen Society, from a leading shipowner in this colony, Hon. J. J. Kerwick and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. and last but not least from the late Governor Sir W. de Vaux and H.M. Government generally. You are to be congratulated that this Sunday Cargoworking Ordinance has come with so little real friction. As you rightly feel and as has been expressed by yourselves, your employers' interests and your own are identical—they cannot be separated. And it remains to be proved, as proved it will be without doubt, that

THE CONSPIRACY CASE.

Before Mr. A. G. Wise at the Magistrate yesterday afternoon, Yeung Min San, Tsang Shan, and Tam Sau were charged on remand with conspiring to defraud Tsao Tung Shan of \$7,000 in cash and \$20,000 in securities.

Mr. Francis, Q.C., instructed by Messrs. Denny and Mowbray, appeared for the defendants, and Mr. Roddy, defended the first defendant, and Mr. Wotton the second and third defendants.

Tsao Tung Shan—I am nineteen years of age. My father is dead. His name was Tsao Wing Yang. My mother is living. She lives at 230, Queen's Road. I was married on the 23rd January, 1891. A suit is now pending in the Supreme Court for administration. I am a ward of the Court and receive an allowance of \$30 per month. I am entitled to an share under my father's will. My share is \$100,000. I was at school five years in Canton, the last school ad came to Hongkong, the year before last. During the time my education was going on I frequently spent time in Hongkong. During the last four months I have frequently borrowed money at different rates of interest. The first loan was for \$7,000 from the defendant. I received \$2,800. The next charge on the estate given was for \$5,500 to P. Ling Tong and Ho Hoi Tung. I received on this charge \$2,750. The third charge was \$15,000 to Yang Ming Chan of which I received \$6,000. I afterwards heard that the charge was made out in Chan Tat's name. At the time it was made out I knew nothing of Chan Tat. I have lost all this money. I lost it in entertainment and gambling. I borrowed the first sum on the 16th May, and the whole of the money were gone by the 6th June. I know the third defendant and fourth defendant. I have known the latter since my marriage. He had something to do with the borrowing of the money. At the end of May he took me to the Pui An Kut, a club in Lower Lascar Row. The third defendant asked me for an allowance. I got from the Court. I said \$30 per month. He said "What are you?" I said, "Nineteen last month." The fourth defendant was standing by and heard what was said. He exclaimed, "You a rich man, and dress so shabbily. If you want money don't you think you can get some?" The third defendant took me to the Choi Fung brothel. After we had smoked, the third defendant said, "You are so tall and plump, you could easily pass for a man, and you need not pay it afterwards." I said "I was afraid my mother and brother

Commercial.

LATEST QUOTATIONS.
 Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, New Issue—200 per cent. premium, buyers.
 Union Insurance Society of Canton—\$95 per share, buyers.
 China Traders' Insurance Company—\$43 per share, sellers.
 North China Insurance—Tis. 275 per share, buyers.
 Canton Insurance Company, Limited—\$107 per share, sellers.
 Yangtze Insurance Association—\$102 per share, buyers.
 On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tis. 150 per share.
 Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—\$310 per share, buyers.
 China Fire Insurance Company—\$83 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company—\$99 per cent. premium, buyers.
 Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$32 ex div., per share, buyers.
 China and Manila Steam Ship Company—\$60 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong Gas Company—\$131 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong Hotel Company—\$45 per share, buyers.
 Hongkong Hotel Co.'s Six per cent. Debentures—\$501.
 Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited—30 per cent. discount, buyers.
 Douglas Steamship Company—\$40 per share, sellers.
 China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$182 per share, sellers and buyers.
 Luen Seng Refining Company, Limited—\$93 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong Ice Company—\$87 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—\$75 per share.
 Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., Limited—\$7 per share, sales.
 A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—\$19 per share, ex div., buyers.
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—24 per cent. premium, buyers.
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—5 per cent. premium, buyers.
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1886 E—14 per cent. premium.
 Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Limited—\$113 per share, buyers.
 The Hongkong Steam Laundry Co., Limited—\$25 per share, nominal.
 Puijoo and Suijoo Dui Samant Mining Co.—\$33 per share, buyers.
 The Kaoh Gold Mining Co., Limited—\$0.85 per share, sellers.
 Imuris Mining Co., Limited—\$91 ex New Issue per share, sales and sellers.
 The Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited—\$4 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company—\$82 per share, sellers.
 Tongkoo Coal Mining Co.—\$340 per share, buyers.
 The Hongkong High-Level Tramway Co., Limited—\$65 per share, buyers.
 H. G. Brown & Co., Limited—\$47 per share, sellers.
 Crutchfield & Co., Limited—\$25 per share, nominal.
 The Steam Launch Co., Limited—nominal.
 The Austin Arms Hotel and Building Company, Limited—\$10 per share, sellers.
 The China-Borneo Co., Limited—\$40 per share, sellers.
 The Hongkong Brick and Cement Co., Limited—\$12 per share, sellers.
 The Green Island Cement Co.—\$15 per share, sellers.
 The Hongkong Land Investment Co., Limited—\$80 ex div., sellers.
 The Hongkong Electric Light Co., Limited—\$6 per share, sellers.
 Geo. Fenwick & Co., Limited—\$151 per share, sales.
 The West Point Buildings Co., Limited—\$25 per share, buyers.
 The Peak Hotel and Trading Co., Limited—\$5 per share, sellers.
 The Labak Trading Co., Limited—\$12 per share, buyers.
 The Labak Mining and Trading Co., Limited—\$3 per share, buyers.
 The Selama Tin Mining Co., Limited—30 cents per share, sales and sellers.
 The Shamoon Hotel Co., Limited—nominal.
 The Kowloon Land Investment Co., Limited—\$75 per share, buyers.
 The Bank of China & Japan & the Straits Ld.—\$16 per share, buyers.
 The Bank of China & Japan & the Straits Ld.—Founders' shares, \$150 per share, sales and buyers.
 London and Pacific Petroleum Co., Ld.—\$15 per share, buyers.
 The National Bank of China, Ld.—60 per cent. div., sales.
 The National Bank of China, Ld.—Founders' shares, \$180 per share, sellers.

EXCHANGE.
 ON LONDON—Bank, T. T. 3/2
 Bank Bills, on demand 3/2
 Bank Bills, at 4 months sight 3/3
 Credits at 4 months sight 3/3
 Documentary Bills, at 4 months sight 3/3
 ON PANAMA—Bank, T. T. 4/07
 Credits, at 4 months sight 4/14
 On India, T. T. 2/11
 On Demand 2/11
 ON SHANGHAI—Bank, T. T. 7/11
 Private, 30 days' sight 7/2

MAILS EXPECTED.

THE FRENCH MAIL.
 The Messageries Maritimes' Co.'s steamer *Yankee*, with the French mail, will arrive at left Singapore on the 10th instant and may be expected here on the 11th.
THE GERMAN MAIL.
 The Norddeutscher Lloyd's steamer *Prinzess*, carrying the German mail, will arrive at left Singapore on the 10th instant and may be expected here on the 11th.
THE AMERICAN MAIL.
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Chin*, with mails, etc., from San Francisco to the 18th ult., left Yokohama on the 4th instant and may be expected here on the 9th.
THE INDIAN MAIL.
 The steamer *Arcturion*, from Calcutta, left Singapore on the 4th instant and may be expected here on the 10th.
THE CANADIAN MAIL.
 The Canadian Pacific Steamship Co.'s steamer *Empress of Japan*, left Vancouver on the 28th ultimo for Yokohama, Shanghai, and Hongkong.

STEAMERS EXPECTED.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Chin*, left Shanghai on the morning of the 6th instant and is due here on the 8th.
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Chin*, left Singapore on the 2nd instant and may be expected here on the 9th.

Shipping.

ARRIVALS.
TOONAN, Chinese steamer, 938, J. Warwick, 5th August—Whampoa 5th Aug. General.
CHUAN, Chinese steamer, 623, W. Wendt, 5th August—Whampoa 5th August, General.
C. M. S. N. Co.
LIBELLE, British steamer, 865, G. Grant, 5th August—Newchwang and Chefoo 29th July, General.—E. C. Ray.
DELTA, French steamer, 717, Abbal, 5th August—Haiphong 7th August, General.—Messageries Maritimes.
NINGCHOW, British steamer, 1,735, H. L. Allen, 6th August—Shanghai 2nd August, and Amoy 4th, General.—Arnold, Karberg & Co.
FUSHUN, Chinese steamer, 1,504, A. Crow, 6th August—Shanghai 3rd August, General.—C. M. S. N. Co.
HARTAN, British steamer, 1,183, S. Ashton, 6th August—Fochow 31st July, Amoy 4th, and Swatow 5th, General.—D. Laprak & Co.
NAMCHOW, British steamer, 1,109, Colonna, 6th August—Singapore 1st August, General.—Chidie.
LY-KE-MOON, German steamer, 1,238, G. Heermann, 6th August—Wuhu and Chinkiang, 1st August, Rice and Wheat.—Stensen & Co.
COSMOPOLIT, German steamer, 551, Schaefer, 6th August—Cebu 1st August, Sugar.—Wiel & Co.
SISHAN, British steamer, 835, E. F. Stowell, 6th August—Saloon 2nd August, Rice.—Kin Tye Loong.
TELEMACHUS, British steamer, 1,397, H. Jones, 6th August—Liverpool 26th June, and Singapore 31st July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

CLEARANCES AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE.
Toonan, Chinese steamer, for Shanghai.
Ningchow, British steamer, for Singapore.
DELTA, German steamer, for Manila.
Zafiro, British steamer, for Amoy.
Tasor, British steamer, for Singapore, &c.
Nester, British steamer, for Singapore, &c.

DEPARTURES.
 August 5, *Riversdale*, British str., for Nagasaki.
 August 5, *Yokohama*, German steamer, for Macao.
 August 5, *Cardiganhire*, British steamer, for Singapore, &c.
 August 5, *Wider*, German str., for Singapore, &c.
 August 6, *Onaga*, British bark, for Calao.
 August 6, *Kallor-Hind*, British steamer, for Singapore, &c.
 August 6, *Victory*, British bark, for Honolulu.
 August 6, *Phra Chula Chom Klao*, British steamer, for Yokohama.
 August 6, *Yasun*, British str., for Singapore, &c.
 August 6, *Taiyang*, British str., for Swatow, &c.
 August 6, *Elze*, German steamer, for Manila.
 August 6, *Norlor*, British str., for Singapore, &c.
 August 6, *Toonan*, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 August 6, *Tasor*, British steamer, for Amoy.
 August 6, *Thorndale*, British steamer, for Aden.

PASSENGERS—ARRIVALS.
 Per *Dalla*, str., from Haiphong—Mrs. Hygon, and 80 Chinese.
 Per *Ningchow*, str., from Shanghai, &c., for Hongkong—10 Chinese. For Singapore—140 Chinese.
 Per *Hattan*, str., from Fochow, &c.—168 Chinese.
 Per *Sishan*, str., from Saigon—45 Chinese.
 Per *Cosmopolit*, str., from Cebu—3 Chinese.
 Per *Ly-ke-moon*, str., from Wuhu, &c.—9 Chinese.
 Per *Telemachus*, str., from Singapore, &c.—38 Chinese.
DEPARTED.
 Per *Kallor-Hind*, str., for Singapore—Messrs. Warren D. Barnes, A. H. Lemon, D. New, C. Genessee, B. Blagio, B. Antonio, and Miss Nuy. For Bombay—Messrs. S. M. Cohen and J. McElroy. For London—Mr. Blamey, Lieut. Francis J. Patteson, and Captain J. Macfarlane. For Sydney—Mr. McCormick.

REPORTS.
 The British steamship *Sishan* reports that the left Saigon on the 2nd instant. Had light southerly winds.
 The British steamship *Ningchow* reports that the left Shanghai on the 2nd instant, and Amoy on the 4th. Had light southerly and south-westerly winds with fine weather, and south-westerly swell.
 The British steamship *Telemachus* reports that the left Liverpool on the 26th June, and Singapore on the 31st ultimo. From Singapore to Maclefield Bank had fresh south-west monsoon, and thence had light variable airs and fine weather.

The British steamship *Hattan* reports that the left Fochow on the 31st ultimo. Had light northerly to north-west breeze and fine weather. Left Amoy on the 4th. Had light variable winds and equally weather. Left Swatow on the 5th. Had light variable winds and cloudy weather. In Fochow the steamship *Halpang*. In Amoy the steamships *Bornao* and *Fokien*. In Swatow the steamship *Fookshing*.

The British steamship *Libelle* reports that the left Newchwang and Chefoo on the 29th ultimo. Experienced dry unsettled weather. Off the Saddle Group, with high confined sea and strong north-east to east-north-east winds; thence to port had moderate south-south-west and south-east to east winds, weather fine and clear. On the 4th instant passed a barque, name unknown, with fore-top and top-gallant-mast, and main-top-gallant-mast gone, steering north-east. On the 3rd instant spoke the German steamship *Maria*, from Cheloo, bound to Whampoa, in lat. 25 deg. north and long. 120 deg. east.

Post Office.

A MAIL WILL CLOSE.
 For Amoy and Shanghai.—Per *Tasor* to-morrow, the 7th instant, at 3.30 A.M.
 For Swatow, Amoy, and Tamsui.—Per *Halpang* to-morrow, the 7th instant, at 11.30 A.M.
 For Saigon.—Per *Amigo* to-morrow, the 7th instant, at 4.30 P.M.
 For Nagasaki, Kobe, and Yokohama.—Per *Verona* to-morrow, the 7th instant, at 5.00 P.M.

SHIPPING IN HONGKONG.

STEAMERS.
AMIGO, German steamer, 771, C. G. Kreider, 3rd August—Saloon 29th July, Rice.—Wiel & Co.

HONGKONG STEAMERS.

Continued.
ANJER HEAD, British steamer, 1,200, J. B. Rose, 4th August—Whampoa 4th Aug. General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
BIZALON, Italian steamer, 1,499, L. Baccarini, 4th August—Bombay 15th July, and Singapore 26th, General.—Carlowitz & Co.
CATTERTHUN, British steamer, 1,480, J. W. B. Darke, 15th July—Sydney 1st July, Moreton Bay 3rd, Cleveland Bay 6th, Cooktown 7th, Thursday Island 6th, and Port Darwin 16th, General.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.
CHOWFA, British steamer, 1,057, F. W. Phillips, 4th August—Bangkok and Koh-i-chang, 27th July, General.—Yuen Fat Hong.
EMPEROR OF JAPAN, British steamer, 5,000, Geo. A. Lee, R.N.R., 21st July—Vancouver 1st July, Yokohama 14th, Kobe 16th, and Wosung 19th, General.—Doddwell, Carlill & Co.
FAME, British steamer, 1,177, Lieut. Wm. G. Comley, R.N.R.—Hongkong Government service.
FRIZ, Danish steamer, 397, C. L. Strand, 24th July—Pakhoi 21st July and Hothow 23rd, General.—Arnold, Karberg & Co.
GAELIC, British steamer, 4,200, W. G. Pearce, 1st July—San Francisco 7th July, and Yokohama 25th, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
GENERAL WILDER, German steamer, 3,020, E. Blanke, 28th July—Yokohama 10th July, Mails and General.—Melchers & Co.
HAIZOON, British steamer, 783, J. Roach, 4th August—Tamsui 31st July, Amoy 2nd, and Swatow 3rd, General.—D. Laprak & Co.
HOLZNER, German steamer, 985, J. Bruhn, 1st July—Whampoa 31st July, General.—Wiel & Co.
LOMBARDY, British steamer, 1,570, Francis Cole, 25th July—Bombay 9th July, and Singapore 20th, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
METAPEDIA, British steamer, 1,456, Fraser, 4th August—Barrow 4th June, and Singapore 23rd July, Ralls.—Government.
MONTECATINI, British steamer, 1,891, Beasley, 28th July—Mojil 22nd July, Coal and General.—Order.
PILOT FINE, British steamer, 161, A. Stopani—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.
FRISTO, German steamer, 655, J. Jensen, 31st July—Tours 28th July, General.—Chidie.
SOMDETH PHRA NANO, British steamer, 1,057, R. Jones, 31st July—Saloon 27th July, Rice and General.—Yuen Fat Hong.
VERONA, British steamer, 1,876, F. H. Seymour, 3rd August—Yokohama 25th July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
WINGSANG, British steamer, 1,517, A. de St. Croix, 1st August—Calcutta 16th July, Penang 22nd, and Singapore 25th, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
ZATRO, British steamer, 675, A. W. R. Cobban, 3rd August—Manila 31st July, General.—Shevan & Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

ALTAR, British bark, 399, T. Munro, 1st Aug.—Tamsui 22nd July, Camphor and Ballast.—Wiel & Co.
AMPHITRITE, British ship, 1,685, C. A. Anderson, 21st July—Cardiff 13th April, Coal.—Wiel & Co.
CALIBURGA, British ship, 1,350, Douglas, 4th June—New York 23rd January, Petroleum.—Russell & Co.
CANARA, British ship, 1,489, J. J. Dexter, 21st July—Shanghai 17th July, General.—Carlowitz & Co.
CARL FRIEDRICH, German ship, 2,040, H. Fröhlich, 5th July—Cardiff 21st March, Coal.—Melchers & Co.
ERLINGTON, Chinese bark, 457, Opium Examination hulk, Stonecutters' Island.—Chinese Customs.
ESCOFF, American bark, 634, Waterhouse, 22nd July—Rajah 12th July, Timber.—Captain.
IMAC REED, American ship, 1,480, F. D. Waldo, 25th May—New York 23rd Nov., Kerosene Oil.—Russell & Co.
JERONIA, German bark, 885, Aug. Oesselmann, 25th July—New York, N.S.W., 24th May, Coal.—Geo. R. Stevens & Co.
KITTY, British bark, 803, Wilson, 21st July—Singapore 7th July, Timber.—D. Musca.
MARIA, Spanish schooner, 51, Francisco Olano, 9th July—Manila 18th June, Ballast.—Master.
MINNIE G. WHITING, British bark, 1,221, W. H. Smith, 18th June—New York 2nd Feb., Kerosene Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
PORTLAND LLOYDS, American bark, 1,180, A. H. Forbes, 23rd July—New York 16th March, Petroleum.—Shevan & Co.
STANFORD, British bark, 590, J. Clark, 3rd July—Sourabaya 14th June, Ballast.—Captain.
TAOPO, British ship, 1,576, D. W. Comling, 4th August—Cardiff 23rd April, Coal.—Government.
XENIA, American bark, 1,136, L. D. Smith, 8th July—Newcastle, N.S.W., 14th May, Coal.—Geo. R. Stevens & Co.

Intimations.

Dr. Knorr's ANTI-PYRINE.
 (Dose for Adults 15 to 25 grains four times.)
 IS the most approved and most efficacious remedy in cases of HEADACHE, MIGRAINE, NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, FEVER, TYPHUS, ERYSIPELAS, HOOPING-COUGH, and many other complaints. It is also the very best Antiseptic. Highly recommended by the medical Faculty. To be had from every reputable Chemist and Druggist. Ask for DR. KNORR'S ANTI-PYRINE! Each Tin bears the inventor's signature, "Dr. KNORR" in red letters.
 Supplies constantly on hand at the China Export, Import, and Bank Co.—Sole Agents for China. Beware of spurious imitations!
 Hongkong, 20th May, 1890.

NOTICE.
JAY'S SANITARY COMPOUNDS COMPANY, LIMITED.
JAY'S WOOD PRESERVER OR ANTI-SEPTIC PAINT.
 THE Undersigned have this day been appointed SOLE AGENTS for the sale of these PERFECT DISINFECTANTS, and are prepared to supply quantities to suit purchasers at Wholesale Prices. Extra Special terms for Shipping and Large Orders.
 Sir ROBERT RAWLINSON, C.B., C.E., Chief Sanitary Engineer, Local Government Board, London, says
 "It is the best Disinfectant in use."
 W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co., Bank Buildings, Hongkong, 19th June, 1891.

Mails.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY'S ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS.
PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG, 1891.
 (SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).
Empress of Japan, Tuesday... | Aug. 11th.
Empress of China, Tuesday... | 1st Sept.
Empress of India, Tuesday... | Sept. 22nd.
THE R. M. S.
"EMPEROR OF JAPAN,"
 5,000 tons, Captain G. A. Lee, R.N.R., sailing at Noon, on TUESDAY, the 11th August, with Her Majesty's Mails, will proceed to VANCOUVER, via SHANGHAI, KOBE, Inland Sea, and YOKOHAMA.

RATES OF PASSAGE.
 (In Mexican Dollars.)
 FROM HONGKONG, FIRST CLASS.

TO	By	Prepaid return.
	1st class	4 mos. 12 mos.
Vancouver, Victoria, Esquimalt, New Westminster, B.C., Westminister, Port Townsend, Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, Ore., San Francisco, Portland, Man.	225	338 394
Minneapolis, Wis., Chicago, Ill., Kansas City, St. Louis, Mo.	255	383 487
Detroit, Mich., Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, O., Hamilton, London, Toronto, Ont.	275	413 482
Buffalo, Niagara Falls, N.Y., Kingston, Ottawa, Ont., Montreal, Quebec, Que., New York, Albany, Troy, Rochester, N.Y., Baltimore, Md., Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Pa., Boston, Mass., Portland, Me., Halifax, N.S., St. John, N.B., Liverpool and London via L.N.E.R.	285	428 499
Paris, via Liverpool and London, via Liverpool	295	443 517
St. Havre, via Liverpool	305	458 534
Bremen, " "	310	465 543
Hamburg, " "	325	575 650

2nd class steamer and 1st class on rail, and 2nd class steamer and rail, also Steamer Rates and Rates to other places, quoted on application. The Steamers call at Victoria to land and embark passengers. Return Tickets.—Time limit for prepaid return ticket is reckoned from date of issue to date of re-embarking at Vancouver. Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of steamers. Special rates (first-class only) are granted to Missionaries, members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic, and Civil Service, to European Officials in service of China and Japan, and to Government officials. Cargo.—Through Bills of Lading issued by Japan Pacific Coast Ports, and to Canadian and United States Ports. Consular Invoices of Goods for United States Ports should be in quadruplicate; and one copy must be sent forward by the steamer to the care of D. E. BROWN, Assistant General Freight and Passenger Agent, Canadian Pacific Railway, Vancouver, B. C. Parcels must be sent to our Office with address in full by 5 P.M. on the day previous to sailing. For further information as to Passage or Freight, apply to DODD, CARLILL & Co., Agents, 22nd July, 1891.

Occidental and Oriental Steamship Company.
TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND EUROPE.
THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND ATLANTIC AND OTHER CONNECTING STEAMERS.
PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.
Gaile, Tuesday... | Tuesday 11th August.
Belge, Thursday... | Thursday 31st Sept.
Oceanic, Saturday... | Saturday 26th Sept.

THE Steamship
"GAELIC"
 will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on TUESDAY, the 11th August, at 1 P.M. Connection being made at Yokohama with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports.

RATES OF PASSAGE.
 From Hongkong, First-class.
 To San Francisco, Vancouver, Victoria, Esquimalt, New Westminster, Port Townsend, Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, O.
 To Liverpool and London..... 335.00
 To Paris and Bremen..... 345.00
 To Havre and Hamburg..... 335.00
 Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of steamers.
 Special rates (first-class only) are granted to Missionaries, members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Service, to European Officials in service of China and Japan, and to Government officials.
 Passengers by this line have the option of proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific and Connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways.
 Return Tickets.—First Class.—Prepaid return tickets to San Francisco will be issued at following rates:—
 4 months.....\$337.50
 12 months.....\$393.75
 Time is reckoned from date of issue to date of re-embarking at San Francisco.
 Passengers who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within one year will be allowed a discount of 10 per cent. This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.
 All Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full and same will be received at the Company's Office until FIVE P.M. the day previous to sailing.
 Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Points beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Office, addressed to the Collector of Customs, San Francisco.
 For further information as to Passage or Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 72, Queen's Road Central.

J. S. VAN BUREN,
 Agent
 Hongkong, 11th July, 1891.

Mails.

U. S. MAIL LINE.
PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY
 THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.
PROPOSED SAILING FROM HONGKONG.
China, Saturday 22nd Aug.
City of Peking, Tuesday 15th Sept.
City of Rio de Janeiro, Thursday 8th Oct.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship
"CHINA"
 will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, via YOKOHAMA, on SATURDAY, the 22nd Aug., at 1 P.M., taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

RATES OF PASSAGE.
 From Hongkong, First-class.
 To San Francisco, Vancouver, Victoria, Esquimalt, New Westminster, Port Townsend, Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, O.
 To Liverpool and London..... 335.00
 To Paris and Bremen..... 345.00
 To Havre and Hamburg..... 335.00
 Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of steamers.
 Special rates (first class only) are granted to Missionaries, members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic, and Civil Service, to European Officials in service of China and Japan, and to Government officials.
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 4 months.....\$337.50
 12 months.....\$393.75
 Time is reckoned from date of issue to date of re-embarking at San Francisco.
 Passengers who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within one year will be allowed a discount of 10 per cent. From Return Fare. This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.
 Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Inland Cities of the United States, via Overland Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.
 Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. the day previous to sailing. Parcel Packages will be received at the Office until 5 P.M. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.
 Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Points beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Office in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco.
 For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 72, Queen's Road Central.

J. S. VAN BUREN,
 Agent
 Hongkong, 30th July, 1891.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.
NOTICE.
STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, BRINDISI, GENOA, ANTWERP, BREMEN & HAMBURG, PORTS IN THE LEVANTE, BLACK SEA AND BALTIC PORTS.
LONDON, NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE, NEW ORLEANS, GALVESTON, AND SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS.
THE COMPANY'S STEAMERS WILL CALL AT SOUTHAMPTON TO LAND PASSENGERS AND LUGGAGE.
N.B.—Cargo can be taken on through Bills of Lading for the principal places in RUSSIA.

ON SATURDAY, the 29th day of August, 1891, at 5 P.M. the Company's Steamship "PREUSSEN," Captain W. Reimknecht, with MAILED PASSENGERS, SPECIE & CARGO, will leave this Port as above, calling at GENOA. Shipping Orders will be granted till 5 P.M. on the 28th, Cargo will be received on board until 5 a.m., on the 29th, Specie and Parcels not to be sent on board; they must be left at the Agency's Office. Contents and Value of Packages are required.
 The Steamer has splendid Accommodation, and carries a Doctor and Stewardess.
 For further Particulars, apply to MELCHERS & Co., Agents.
 Hongkong, 4th August, 1891.

Hotels.
BAY VIEW HOTEL.
M. R. OSBORNE begs to announce that this convenient half-way House on Sha-ti-wan Road is now open.
 The HOTEL commands a beautiful View and is situated in a cool and breezy spot.
 There is a convenient landing jetty opposite the Hotel for launches.
 The best Brands of WINES, LIQUORS, CIGARS, &c., always on Stock. MEALS can be served at any hour. Prompt attendance.
 Hongkong, 14th May, 1891.

THE SHAMBEEN HOTEL.
BRITISH CONCESSION, CANTON.
THIS FIRST CLASS HOTEL, admirably situated within a few minutes walk of the River Steamer Wharves, is now open to receive Visitors.
 The Bed-rooms are cool, airy and comfortably furnished, and the spacious Dining Room, Sitting Room, and accommodation generally will be found equal to the best Hotels in the Far East.
 The Table D'Hôte is supplied with every luxury in season, and the cuisine is of the best quality only.
 Wines, Spirits, Malt Liquors, &c., of the best quality only.
A. F. DO ROZARIO,
 Manager.
 Hongkong, 4th November, 1890.

For Sale.

"C" R. W. Y. N. B. R. N.
THE BEST BREAKFAST CLARIFY,
 at \$3.00 a dozen.
"ST. GEORGE'S"
A SOUND BREAKFAST CLARIFY,
 at \$2.50 a dozen.
 \$0.25 allowance for 1 doz. Empty Bottles returned.
 Samples sent on application.
G. GIRAULT,
 (Late GUTHRIE FRANKS),
 No. 8, Queen's Road, Central.
 Hongkong, 30th July, 1891. [1053]

INTIMATION.
F. Blackhead & Co.,
SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAIL-MAKERS,
and PROVISION MERCHANTS,
NAVY CONTRACTORS, &
GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.
 No. 11, Praya Central, (Opposite Padder's Wharf).
SOLE AGENTS FOR RAHTJEN'S GENUINE COMPOSITION FOR THE BOTTOMS OF IRON SHIPS.
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FLAG-FLYING AND ITS MORAL.

[illegible]

LORD Conemaun, of unsavory divorce renown, paid his respects to the Emperor of Japan at the Imperial Palace, and was received in audience at 10 a.m. on the 15th ulto.

A COLLISION occurred in the Shanghai river on the 16th ulto. between the *Ningchow* and *Glen-dower*. The damage done to the former steamer is slight, but the latter vessel has a hole in her starboard side above the water line.

SATAN—What's the matter, Ber'zhub? Beelzebub—A large party at the gate from Hongkong, and there's a lot of them all, Sir—Satan—Dear me, I wish the Hongkong *amuse* were finished! Let the pirates stay outside and wait, but admit the others.

The body of the foreigner who was found in the Shanghai river on the 17th ulto has now been identified as that of Ingeborg Johansson, a sailor belonging to the Norwegian steamer *Banckhof* *Havrikken*. Identification was effected through the medium of deceased's clothes and a knife that he wore.

THE Singapore *Free Press* states that the steamer *Nam Chow* and *Flintshire* have not yet been released from quarantine owing to the occurrence of a fatal case of cholera on board each vessel. The *Flintshire* has lost another of its native crew and the *Nam Chow* a Chinese passenger for Hongkong.

TELEGRAPHIC intelligence has been received here to the effect that the railway line which will connect the Imuris Mines with the coast, is expected to be completed in a fortnight's time. This, of course, will materially affect the value of the Imuris Mines, which are now fully fifty per cent. of local residents has hitherto been credited with little more than a mythical existence.

RUMORS were going the rounds of Shanghai on the 26th ulto, of a serious rising in Hoku, and the rebels were supposed to have invaded Hoku, and to be marching on Hankow. It, however, was really a trivial affair of some mountain bandits, who burnt some roadsides along at Shanghai on the frontier of Hoku, and plundered a caravan of twenty-three wheel-barrows which was on its way to Hankow, after which the bandits retired to their mountain fastnesses.

VERY interesting and amusing was the football match played last evening (25th ulto) on the Parade Ground by the "Duffers" and "Dum-dums" of the Regiment. The teams were dressed in imitation of Chinese, Japanese, Irishmen, Highlanders, etc., mounted on a raised platform. For about an hour these representatives of all nations cavorted about, utterly regardless of the rules of the game, but to the infinite diversion of fully a thousand spectators. The "Duffers" side seemed to win.

It is reported that a man named Sekiguchi Mampel, of Tokushima, has invented a combination swimming dress and machine, which can be used in the case of an accident, when one is obliged to plunge into water. When in the water a person can stand up, the body from the breast upwards being above water, so that he can read, write, etc., and in the event of the sea being very rough, a hood is provided to shelter the face from the waves. As soon as a patent is obtained, public experiments will be made at Shingaw or in the Sumidagawa. The inventor is at present residing in Tokyo.

A VETERAN'S three lengths swimming handicap, for a silver cup presented by a member, attracted a large attendance at the Recreation Club bath last evening (July 29th). There were about a dozen entries, but only half the number completed. The length of the course was 135 yards, the limit man, Mr. F. W. Watts, receiving 15 seconds start, Mr. D. J. Patrick being scratch. For one length the pace was decidedly fast, but at the end of the second length Mr. H. C. Manning (10 sec.) forged ahead in good style, which so disheartened the remainder that they did not pass the post. The winner's time was 24 minutes—about a yard a second.

THE *Peking Gazette* reports that the Governor General of Chihli having reported that the former T'ai-tai Fuh-king after being degraded had contributed T'ia 10,000 towards the relief of destitute people, the Governor has ordered the rank of captain to be conferred on him. To this restoration of honor has been raised. Fuh-king was originally a clerk in the Canton Customs Office, and gradually purchased his several ranks. The objections are that he re-purchased his rank far too cheaply, and that the ancient regulations regarding the purchases of office rank and title should be upheld more strictly in future, although, in the present case, an alteration cannot take place, an Imperial Edict settling the matter, having been promulgated.

THE *Nippon* observes that Russia and China have in recent years alternately attempted to make their influence supreme in the peninsula of Korea. In 1886, Russia first approached the Korean Court with a proposal for a secret treaty, but the attempt was rejected by the Korean interference by China. Three years afterwards, China produced considerable excitement by an attempt to delude the present King of Korea, and now it is again the turn of Russia to push her claim. So the contest is going on between these two Powers, and Korea's independence is in greater danger than ever. In two other articles the *Nippon* invokes the chivalry of its countrymen to help their unfortunate neighbor's endeavours to maintain an independent status. Further it is the interest of Japan to keep Korea free, for should the peninsula be occupied by Russia, the city of Seoul would be once more threatened, and the Tokyo Journal remarks that Japan is bound by every consideration to avert such an event.

ACCORDING to the *Yokohama Mail* the visit of the Chinese squadron continues to attract journalistic attention. The *Yokohama Mail* remarks that though its commander had not failed to keep themselves informed of the development made by the Chinese Navy, they have nevertheless been surprised to discover that the real progress of their neighbor in this direction is far more remarkable than they had imagined. Our contemporary believes that Western nations, fall into the same error about the Japanese Navy as the Japanese people have hitherto made about the Chinese. Consequently, it repeats what it has more than once suggested, that the Government should send out a squadron of war vessels on a voyage to the East. Such a step, while it would be a great help to the Japanese Navy, would do much to remove the misconceptions entertained by Occidental nations about the progress of Japan. It is not the *Yokohama Mail* intention to compare the navies of Japan and China, but it cannot refrain from noting that the Japanese navy is far ahead of the Chinese in the qualities which constitute the real strength of a navy, namely the ability, skill, and discipline of its officers and men. It recommends that, before a Chinese squadron visits Europe and America, the Japanese Government should send out a fleet of vessels on a matter what cost, for a voyage round the world.

THE two soldiers of the 91st Regiment who were charged with robbing a drunken sailor on the *Praya* on Saturday night were brought up again on remand in the Police Court to-day (5th ulto), and sentenced to six months' imprisonment each. The two police constables who "spotted the lay" were highly commended. It is said that two days ago a similar case occurred at Kowloon, two soldiers bludgeoned a "Jack Ashore," getting innumerable drinks out of him, and also so many into him that he fell a prey to their martial instinct of pocket-picking. They were, however, subsequently dealt with by the military authorities, who would give them their deserts.

A SURPRISE.
She was a sweet girl graduate
From Glinton or from Vassar;
In learning, with her few could rate
In beauty, none surpass her.
One night she tried a telescope,
Her glib a good professor,
And glibly, talked of lens and scope
Of "focus" and "depressor."
He showed her Venus. What repeat
What thereupon was shown up?
She said, "O is she not too sweet?
Now please show me Adams!"

At the Magistrate's day five Chinamen were charged with assaulting Yu Akiu and stealing \$40 on the 17th ulto. The prosecutor repeated a horrible tale of woe—how he gambled on board the steamship *Independence*, having just received \$40, his pay, how he lost \$2.40 to the first defendant, and paid his debt of honour like a man; how the defendant then claimed \$40 more, and called him a wabber; the second defendant joined in the cry, and with others to the other \$40 from him; how they afterwards took him to Yau-ma-ti, tied him to a tree, beat him, and tried to extort more money; and how they finally brought him back to Hongkong under a promise to "do what he could for them." He did what he could, and as a result they were each ordered to pay \$5 fine for the assault and \$5 compensation.

A CORRESPONDENT writing to the *Yokohama Mail* from Seoul, under date of the 3rd ulto, says that a decision has been come to by the Min party to send a Minister to Russia to contract a secret treaty, placing Korea under the protection of Russia. The reason that this is not yet carried out is the fear that if discovered by China she will make difficulties, whilst on the other side the King delays his sanction, as the Queen and a majority of the influential officials are opposed to it. As, however, the Min party are resolved to carry out their plan, a collision may easily take place between the two factions. The matter is, however, an open secret amongst the foreign diplomatic circle, and it is rumored that the Min party are to receive a large sum of money when the transaction is carried out. In short, they are going to sell their country. As to what measures Mr. Yuen will take, nothing is yet known.

THE *Kokkon* is responsible for the following snake story. It says that on the 17th ulto, a man called Nomura Tabichi, fifty years age, went out with his wife Otoro, who was forty-eight, to pursue his usual avocation of tree-cutting in Koshitamura, province of Tamba. The husband and wife separated at a place called Matsuyama. Shortly afterwards while engaged in felling a tree, Tabichi thought he heard his wife cry out. Running to the place, he was horrified to find that a huge snake, described as being three feet in circumference, had Otoro's head in its mouth and was engaged in swallowing her. Tabichi, who was a strong man, ran off to the hamlet and summoned seven or eight of his neighbors, who, when they reached the scene of the catastrophe, found that the snake had swallowed the woman as far as her feet, and was slowly making its way to its hole. They were too much terrified to touch it, and it finally effected its escape unmolested. This monster of Tamba and the mermaid of Tsushima must be bracketed together.

THE *Nippon* publishes a remarkable article on the subject of banks and companies. It takes a view of the present situation of the banks, predicting that the failures which have already occurred are only a prelude, and will be followed shortly by others. The whole blame is laid on the shoulders of the Government, which is accused of discharging its duties of superintendence in an inefficient and perfunctory manner. It is competent for the Authorities to inspect the banks either at regular fixed intervals or unexpectedly at any moment. The *Nippon* claims that the power thus conferred is not only exercised, but the condition of many banks is so precarious, that the Government is refusing to allow them to continue to operate. On the other hand, the banks go on presenting rosy returns and declaring big dividends. There is no concealing the fact that the market price of their shares is steadily falling, whereas the banks pay a big percentage as ever on their capital. The *Nippon* urges that if official superintendence is not thorough, it becomes a mischief rather than an advantage.

In my last letter, I said a correspondent in the *Yokohama Mail*, "I referred to a rumor that an intrigue was on foot to conclude a secret treaty with Russia so as to bring Korea under the latter's sway, and that an ambassador was to be secretly despatched to St. Petersburg for the purpose. I now learn that the intrigue was organized by the Ming family, and that the ambassador selected by them was Boku Seishaku, an intimate friend of Ming Oshoku. But several reasons have prevented his starting on his mission. Chief among these reasons is the fact that news of the affair reached China, and that the Queen and many influential members of the Government being opposed to the project, the King has refrained from ratifying Boku's appointment. The Ming family, however, are very anxious to prosecute the design, and have determined, I am told, to urge the King to give his sanction at once. I have not succeeded in obtaining a copy of the secret treaty, but I understand that it contains a clause placing Korea under Russian protection. In a memorial addressed by one of the Ministers of State some time ago to the King, this sentence occurs: "Europeans are honest and faithful, but the Chinese are stupid and slow, and the Japanese are crafty and unscrupulous." Japan preserves an amicable attitude towards us externally, but we must not become too intimate with her. This sentence gives a clue to the views of the Ming family, and indicates their desire to place themselves under the Russian eagle. But unfortunately for them their secret was divulged, and the Representatives of the Foreign Powers have reported the affair to their Governments. The intrigue owes its origin to the Russian Minister's appeal to the King, and prominent members of the Ming family—Ming Yei-shun, Ming Yei-kan, Ming Oshoku, and Ming Yei-yoku—were promised large sums of money. Last year when a similar rumor was circulated, the Chinese Representative, Mr. Yuen, said that if the story proved correct, he should tie up the Prime Minister and the other conspirators and send them to China to be dealt with. What course he will adopt on this occasion, I hope to report by next mail. We republish this story as an illustration of the subjects that, apparently, are rather too common place in the minds of the

ACCORDING to latest advices the U.S.S. *Alliance* was awaiting telegraphic instructions at Shanghai before proceeding to sea.

A COOLIE LOVE DITTY.
O, the feet of Li-choi are like round little poles
On the silks which her acrobatic use
When she walks, her plump soles imprint round little holes.
So small are her round little shoes.
There are tiny-toed maidens, both charming and coy,
But none like my lovely Li-choi!

O, the eyes of Li-choi are so sweetly oblique
That they slope like a well written V.
And so small each resembles a hole in her cheek,
Set with diamonds that sparkle at me.
There are black eyes that madden and brown eyes that cloy,
But none like my lovely Li-choi!

O, the locks of Li-choi are as straight as bamboo
And as oily as well roasted geese.
Three hours every week she devotes to shampoo
And an hour every day to goose-grease.
There are maidens whose pigtail are objects of joy,
But none like my lovely Li-choi!

O, the skin of Li-choi is like very thin milk
Or a sunflower at dawn in the dew.
She shaves off each hair till her flesh is like silk
Of a color deliciously blue.
There are maidens whose complexions a king would enjoy,
But none like my lovely Li-choi!

O, the words of Li-choi are infrequent and few
But they're made my emotions intense.
So I bought her to-day for my wife and cook, too,
For a dollar and twenty-five cents!
There are maidens as cheap in Hongkong or Amoy,
But none like my lovely Li-choi!

THE *Kokkon*, at present, says a recent issue of the *Kokkon*, 10 men-of-war in Yokohama representing the English, American, Portuguese, and Chinese nationalities. This paper refers to the following quaint manner to the different characteristics of the men of the squadrons visiting there. The sailors belonging to these vessels are coming on shore daily, and thus have an opportunity of becoming familiar with their distinctive traits; the following being the general opinion of the public regarding them. The Chinese officers when in private dress are chiefly distinguishable from the ordinary Chinamen of the port by the somewhat superior material and make of their garments, although they certainly exhibit greater dignity of carriage. The sailors are generally vulgar, and very few of them have a navy-like smartness. As they spend but little money, they are not popular at the public houses, and before they enter any drinking establishment they look in to enquire whether there are any other sailors there, and if not they enter, but if there are other nationals there already, they go away, which is very ridiculous. The English sailors are very strong and big, and are very proud. They indulge the national love of spending money, but their proud manner of doing so makes everyone furious. As the American flag-ship *Monocacy* has been lying in the harbour now for some three years, the sailors are naturally accustomed to the manners and customs of this country, and when they meet our sailors about the town, they always come up in a friendly way, and sometimes our sailors are quite at a loss how to respond to their hearty greetings. The Portuguese sailors are very like the Japanese in appearance, but unless they have just received their pay they do not spend much money.

ALL who are hard up will be glad to find a new way of raising the wind. This is not a Hebrew advertisement, nor a fraud of any sort; it is actual fact, recorded in the depositions of the Police Court. Two Chinese boys, one aged eleven years and the other fifteen, wanted pocket money. Says (Jimmy, the older) to Johnny (the younger), "Look here, my old Chinaman without family, will buy your come and be sold, I will take the proceeds; then you go, come back to your long long home, and we will share the dibs." So they got two others to find a children's woman, wife of the skipper of a junk, she paid them \$10, and took the infant away on board, protesting, as this was not what he meant. Then the three shared the wealth and departed. Jimmy went back to his mother and said that he had taken his brother to Kowloon and left him there; he gave the old woman \$2 as the proceeds of his gambling, and all went well. But then the father returned from Canton and asked for his child; the whole affair was exposed, and the two miscreants who helped to sell the boy were charged with fraudulently inducing the child out of the Colony for unlawful purposes. The older brother gave evidence saying that the two defendants first came to him and suggested that they should "make a few dollars out of the younger brother," and he agreed. The prisoners admitted the charge, but pleaded that they only received two or three out of the twenty dollars paid by the fatherless boy. Mr. Wise sentenced them to six months' imprisonment, and being both about 20 years of age, and having the father to take home the witness (Jimmy) and give him \$10, for he was evidently worse even than the two prisoners. The affectionate pauper said that he had the boy tied up all night, and would attend to him. Good old Roman father!

If the correspondence in the *Yokohama Mail* is correct, there seems to be the making of another nice little row in the centre of turmoil, Korea. It appears, says the *Yokohama Mail*, that the Min family now wish to make the country under the protection of Russia, and of course these worthy patriots will then receive a large pecuniary reward. The principal source of trouble in carrying out this view is that it is somewhat weak-minded being who represents royalty in that country, and who does not appear to have half the courage that the Queen has. The strange thing about the whole affair is that it is supposed to be hidden from dread of the Chinese, and yet it is said to be an open secret. Mr. Yuen must be very badly served if he is ignorant of what is going on, and it may well be that he is watching the minor playing around the trap. He is a gentleman who carries matters with a high hand, and we should not be at all surprised to find some other Korean refugees coming over here to join Mr. Kim Oh-kun, always supposing that they are "lucky enough to get away." Mr. Yuen is scarcely likely to allow intrigues to go on under his very nose to transfer Korea to Russian protection, without taking some steps to prevent it, and it may be noted that the Chinese fleet is under orders to leave here for Korea, when the Chinese Resident may prove to the Min intrigues that he is not a fool. Neither the Chinese nor Japan can afford to lose Korea, a portion of Russia, for this is what it would come to, and Korea under Russian protection, would be as free as Turkey or China is now. Meanwhile, as we have before had occasion to remark, there never will be an end to the series of plots and intrigues of which Korea is the centre until that country is formally annexed to China; and the sooner this is done the better. If the solution of the difficulty is postponed until the Siberian railway is opened, Russia will then be in a position to openly take up the affair.

THE HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

The fifteenth half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the above Company was held at noon to-day (July 31st). There were present:—Messrs. P. Ryrie, (chairman), E. R. Bellin, F. A. Gomes, L. Pessenecker (directors), R. A. Gubbay, H. J. Gomes, B. N. Ellis, G. E. Levy, A. T. G. Silva, E. J. Moses, A. S. Cohen, F. Henderson, H. Humphreys, A. J. B. Soares, M. H. Michael, S. L. Darby, Wong Ping Lum and T. Arnold (Secretary).

The Chairman said that the report was not particularly brilliant, the earnings of the fleet, through the great competition being much less than they were in previous years. One of the reasons was the excess of tonnage on the Canton River, and another that a great portion of the paying cargo which the Company used to get was now sent down by junk. The P & O Company, for instance, had sent one steamer up to Canton to load several thousand tons of cargo direct for London. The repairs they would see, had been very heavy, but the directors were in hopes that they would be lighter in future, especially now that the Back Reach had been opened, and the boats would not have to drag over the bars, and repulse to their bottoms would not be required. As to the *Huaghe*, the claim on the builders had been referred to arbitration, and it would be out of place to say anything about the matter at present. The opposition, as they were aware, still continued; there had been reports from time to time that it had been withdrawn, but somehow or other it didn't come off. It had been suggested by several large shareholders that the field of the Company's operations might with advantage be extended in the North, and unless matters improved in the Canton River the question would receive the serious consideration of the directors. Then invited questions, and there being none, moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Cohen seconded, and it was agreed to. Messrs. Bellin and Pessenecker were re-elected as directors, on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Solomon. Messrs. A. O'D. Gourdin and F. Henderson were re-elected auditors, on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Bellin. The Chairman having announced that dividend warrants would be ready to-morrow, the proceedings terminated.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 31st ulto. There were present—H. E. Major-General Digby Barker, Officer Administering the Government; Mr. W. M. Goodman (Acting Colonial Secretary); Mr. A. J. Leach (Acting Attorney-General); Mr. S. Brown (Surveyor-General); Mr. J. N. Stewart-Lockhart (Registrar-General); Mr. N. G. Mitchell-Innes (Colonial Treasurer); Messrs. J. J. Kewick, T. H. Whitehead, and Ho Kai.

THE minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

GOVERNMENT SUNDAY LABOUR.

The Hon. T. H. Whitehead asked the following question:—Will the Government lay upon the table copies of Lord Knutsford's despatch, dated 16th ulto, last, to the Officer Administering the Government on the subject of inserting in all Government contracts a provision that under such contracts work shall not be carried out on Sundays except in very urgent cases, copies of the Honorable F. Fleming's despatch in reply, and copies of Sir Wm. Des Vaux's despatch to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, dated 20th February last, on the same question?

His Excellency—The first despatch named in this question will be laid on the table, I believe it has not yet been received from the printer. (The despatch had just then arrived, and was laid on the table.) There does not appear to be any despatch by the Hon. F. Fleming in reply to that. With regard to the second despatch, referred to in this question, by Sir G. W. Des Vaux, I find that no reply has yet been received from the Secretary of State to that despatch, and it is not customary to publish despatches which have not yet been replied to by the Secretary of State.

Mr. Whitehead—I think the despatch referred to has already been published in a Blue Book laid on the table of the House of Commons.

His Excellency—I was speaking of publication by this Council. I don't know who else may have seen it. It is the custom here not to publish despatches as I have stated.

The following is the despatch respecting Sunday Labour on Government Works laid on the table:—Downing Street, 16th October, 1890. Sir,—With reference to your despatch No. 153 of the 17th of May last, I have the honour to forward, for your information, copies of correspondence with the Crown Agents, as noted in the margin, relative to the engagement of a Foreman Mason for the Fraya Works. In regard to the question of Sunday labour, referred to in your despatch, under acknowledgment, I have the honour to observe that you will have received recently a circular despatch of 31st July last, enclosing a report of a discussion in the House of Lords on this subject. You will have learned from my speech on the occasion of that discussion, that in the Straits Settlements all Government contracts now contain a provision that work under those contracts shall not be carried out on Sunday, except in very urgent cases, and on special authority. I would suggest that a similar rule should be adopted in Hongkong if it has not been already adopted. I have the honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient, humble servant, Knutsford.

THE CENTRAL MARKET.

The Hon. T. H. Whitehead moved the following resolution:—That in view of His Excellency Governor Des Vaux's Minutes, dated the 3rd and 14th April, 1891, and of the opinions expressed therein, and as it is impossible for non-professional men to decide between the designs of the Honourable the Surveyor General and the designs of Mr. H. W. Willis, or to determine as to the best method of dealing with a work of such importance as the proposed New Central Market, a Commission be appointed with full power to call for papers, to examine professional and other witnesses, and to report to the Council on the whole subject.

His Excellency—Your Excellency, I rise to move the resolution of which I have the honor. The subject of the proposed New Central Market is one of very great importance. Something like a quarter of a million of dollars of the ratepayers' money is going to be spent on the building alone, irrespective of the cost of the land. The matter has been long under consideration, and already great delay has taken place. Plans were originally prepared by the former Surveyor-General, but these were disapproved by the present Surveyor-General. The plans and designs of the present Surveyor-General have been disapproved by His

Excellency Sir G. W. Des Vaux, and at the request of Mr. Brown a professional man, Mr. Willis, an architect of high qualifications, was got out from home to look after the work appertaining to an architect in connection with this and other Government buildings. It seems that under the order of His Excellency Sir W. Des Vaux the architect prepared plans and designs, and these as well as the Surveyor General's plans and designs were submitted to Governor Des Vaux. He evidently was unable to decide the question, and as it was one of very great importance, the matter was referred to the Public Works Committee. In the Public Works Committee I moved certain resolutions—"That as it is impossible for non-professional men to determine as to the best method of dealing with a work of such importance as the proposed New Central Market, local architects be invited to send in designs for a New Central Market with detailed plans and estimates, the building to be erected on the present foundations. Government to offer two prizes therefor, and that in consequence of the minutes of his Excellency Governor Sir Willis, Des Vaux dated the 3rd and 14th April, 1891, this Committee is called upon to decide between the designs of the Honourable the Surveyor General and of Mr. H. W. Willis." I further moved "that this Committee has not sufficient information before its Members to enable it to decide between the designs of the Honourable the Surveyor-General and of Mr. H. W. Willis; and I asked that a Commission be appointed with power to call professional and other witnesses before it to examine them and report. This was not allowed, and I now bring the matter up in Council, because I feel that it is one of such great importance, and such a huge amount of money is going to be spent on it that although it does involve further delay I think the subject ought to be referred to a Commission of men of experience and standing in the Colony. I may be permitted to refer to H. E. Sir W. Des Vaux's minute dated 3rd April, which stated that he did not intend to take any further action, without additional advice; Mr. Brown was not an architect, and had invited a gentleman of that profession to deal with that portion of the work. He should be given the papers and allowed to report fully on the subject. Mr. Brown should not in any way influence that report, but should make his own remarks in a covering letter. Sir W. Des Vaux further asked whether plans and detailed estimates had been prepared for the whole of the work, or whether the objectionable system had been followed of preparing plans for only a part and leaving the estimates for the rest an unknown quantity.

The Surveyor-General—Will the Hon. member also read the reply to that minute, which was also before the Committee?

Mr. Whitehead proceeded to read his Excellency's remarks, to the effect that the work done to the foundations had been, according to practical men, unnecessarily expensive. There was a further minute by his Excellency, which he desired to read, dated 14th April last, saying that this matter was of such importance that notwithstanding the delay involved he desired further advice before coming to a final decision. There was a marked difference of opinion between Mr. Brown and Mr. Willis, who had been appointed by Mr. Brown's desire. His Excellency, naturally, would have been to support the head of the department, but unfortunately experience did not lead him to have great confidence in Mr. Brown's opinions with regard to building work, and he was bound to give weight to what Mr. Willis urged. His advice views might proceed from want of knowledge of the climate and local circumstances, and although he might have made mistakes at first through this, yet, his Excellency concluded, he could scarcely think he was altogether wrong. After reading these minutes Mr. Whitehead resumed—Your Excellency, this matter has been referred to the Sanitary Board, though the Sanitary Board will have to deal with the market later on. I understand that they will be responsible for it, and I think that it would have been well had they been consulted on the matter. Sir W. Des Vaux referred the matter in dispute to the Public Works Committee, but I think the Public Works Committee was not quite the proper body for this reason—the Surveyor-General is President of the Public Works Committee, and he is also a party to the dispute. I think that instead of having referred to that Committee it should have been referred to a Commission such as that which I now propose. I do not think the public will be satisfied unless the matter is referred to a Commission. Such a very large amount of money is going to be spent on this building that I think it is absolutely necessary to have further advice, and that advice can be very easily obtained by a Commission. I think that the delay involved would not extend over a very long period. I therefore beg to move the resolution. I am very sorry that the senior unofficial member is not able to be present, as he had promised to second the motion. But I hope that one of my hon. colleagues will do so.

There being no second, the motion fell to the ground.

The Acting Colonial Secretary said that he had intended to move an amendment to Mr. Whitehead's motion. That had fallen through, but he would bring his amendment forward. He could only bring his amendment forward as a separate motion, and no notice had been given, so that the Standing Orders would have to be suspended if hon. members wished to discuss the subject.

Hon. member did not move.

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Hon. member did not move.

THE MERCHANT SHIPPING CONSOLIDATION ORDINANCE.

The Acting Attorney-General—I have to move the first reading to the Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance. All the material alteration will be found printed in Italics.

The Acting Colonial Secretary seconded, and it was agreed to.

THE WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSIONS ORDINANCE.

The Colonial Treasurer asked that the Committee on this Bill should stand over for a week.

THE OPIUM ORDINANCE.

The Acting Attorney-General asked that the second reading of the Opium Ordinance, 1891, stand over. It was a most important Bill, primarily affecting the Government, through the revenue, and also the Opium Farmer. Several important amendments had been suggested, which he desired to consider in detail, and as the Opium Farmer had only just returned from Japan it would be as well to leave the matter over for a while.

Mr. Ho Kai said that the Bill should be circulated before the next meeting, that the members of Council might have an opportunity of considering it.

The Acting Attorney-General promised that this should be done if possible.

Mr. Whitehead added that it was absolutely necessary that the Bill should receive the consideration of the members before meeting; the opium merchants were particularly interested in it, and although they were here for their own benefit the Colony also derived considerable profit through them.

His Excellency, in concurring, said that every effort would be made to enable those interested to consider the draft measure in good time.

THE SUNDAY REST REPEAL BILL.

Mr. Whitehead—I rise to move the second reading of the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Sunday Cargo-Working Ordinance, 1891." I am aware that your Excellency has received a telegram from the Secretary of State intimating that Her Majesty the Queen has approved of that Ordinance. Notwithstanding that, I have been asked to still move the second reading of this amending Bill. The Secretary of State has heard only one side of the question, and I think it is very desirable and necessary that he should hear the other side. At the last meeting of the Council I laid on the table copies of the memorial from most of the shipping firms and others in the Colony, and also a copy of a memorial which is being signed by the Chinese. I also laid upon the table copies of a letter from the senior Unofficial member and myself in connection with the Ordinance. Outside the reasons mentioned in the memorials and the letter I have very little to say, and therefore I move the second reading of the Bill. The hon. senior Unofficial member promised to second, but unfortunately he is absent.

Mr. Ho Kai—I beg to second the proposal that the Bill be read a second time. I see that the Bill seems nothing beyond the extension of the time before the other Ordinances shall come into effect. It does not strike at the principle of the Ordinance—it simply seeks to gain a little time until the Secretary of State can be communicated with by those who are opposed to the measure. As such I fully accord to my support. Of course personally—as I showed by my vote when the Ordinance was before this Council—my sympathies are with those who tried to obtain one day's rest in seven, whether there are a thousand of them or only a few. I like to have my Sunday rest, and I would like to see everyone else have the same. But at the same time I cannot shut my eyes to the objections raised, and no doubt there is a very large number of shipping firms, and agents, and merchants, who are opposed to the Ordinance. I must say they have been treated in a very shabby way in one respect; when the Bill came before the Council some time ago it was to a certain extent forced through. True, outside the Council they had frequent opportunities of criticizing it, but when it was before us it was to a great extent unopposed. If I remember right the proposer of this present Bill, and Mr. Ryrie, both voted against it, and I remember proposing that the second reading of the Bill should be postponed in order to allow those members who wished it to have an opportunity of discussing it in Council. But his Excellency, Governor Des Vaux, replied that he would not wait any longer because he wished to have a matter passed before he went away (two days later) and it was adjourned. As I asked, a meeting was called for next day. So finding that it was impossible for one member to oppose the measure I withdrew my objection. Now the opponents of the Ordinance have come forward and asked for a suspension of that Ordinance for two months, and I think they are clearly entitled to it from what I have just said. Those at all events who have gained their object can, I think, wait another two months, for the privilege, without losing their victory, especially as they know that the Secretary of State has telegraphed his sanction to the Ordinance. They can afford to be generous and allow their opponents an opportunity of beinging their opposition before the home government. For these reasons I second the Bill.

His Excellency—Notwithstanding what the hon. member who has just said has stated with regard to the object of the Bill, though purporting to amend it, clearly "his" for its object is the repealing of the "Sunday Cargo-Working Ordinance." That Ordinance has been passed by this Council, somewhat hurriedly, and in consequence of special circumstances. It has received Her Majesty's approval, and comes into force to-morrow. I consider that, notwithstanding extraordinary and urgent circumstances, would justify its repeal before it is working has been passed by this Council, somewhat hurriedly, and in consequence of special circumstances. It has received Her Majesty's approval, and comes into force to-morrow. I consider that, notwithstanding extraordinary and urgent circumstances, would justify its repeal before it is working has been passed by this Council, somewhat hurriedly, and in consequence of special circumstances. It has received Her Majesty's approval, and comes into force to-morrow. I consider that, notwithstanding extraordinary and urgent circumstances, would justify its repeal before it is working has been passed by this Council, somewhat hurriedly, and in consequence of special circumstances. It has received Her Majesty's approval, and comes into force to-morrow. I consider that, notwithstanding extraordinary and urgent circumstances, would justify its repeal before it is working has been passed by this Council, somewhat hurriedly, and in consequence of special circumstances. It has received Her Majesty's approval, and comes into force to-morrow. I consider that, notwithstanding extraordinary and urgent circumstances, would justify its repeal before it is working has been passed by this Council, somewhat hurriedly, and in consequence of special circumstances. It has received Her Majesty's approval, and comes into force to-morrow. I consider that, notwithstanding extraordinary and urgent circumstances, would justify its repeal before it is working has been passed by this Council, somewhat hurriedly, and in consequence of special circumstances. It has received Her Majesty's approval, and comes into force to-morrow. I consider that, notwithstanding extraordinary and urgent circumstances, would justify its repeal before it is working has been passed by this Council, somewhat hurriedly, and in consequence of special circumstances. It has received Her Majesty's approval, and comes into force to-morrow. I consider that, notwithstanding extraordinary and urgent circumstances, would justify its repeal before it is working has been passed by this Council, somewhat hurriedly, and in consequence of special circumstances. It has received Her Majesty's approval, and comes into force to-morrow. I consider that, notwithstanding extraordinary and urgent circumstances, would justify its repeal before it is working has been passed by this Council, somewhat hurriedly, and in consequence of special circumstances. It has received Her Majesty's approval, and comes into force to-morrow. I consider that, notwithstanding extraordinary and urgent circumstances, would justify its repeal before it is working has been passed by this Council, somewhat hurriedly, and in consequence of special circumstances. It has received Her Majesty's approval, and comes into force to-morrow. I consider that, notwithstanding extraordinary and urgent circumstances, would justify its repeal before it is working has been passed by this Council, somewhat hurriedly, and in consequence of special circumstances. It has received Her Majesty's approval, and comes into force to-morrow. I consider that, notwithstanding extraordinary and urgent circumstances, would justify its repeal before it is working has been passed by this Council, somewhat hurriedly, and in consequence of special circumstances. It has received Her Majesty's approval, and comes into force to-morrow. I consider that, notwithstanding extraordinary and urgent circumstances, would justify its repeal before it is working has been passed by this Council, somewhat hurriedly, and in consequence of special circumstances. It has received Her Majesty's approval, and comes into force to-morrow. I consider that, notwithstanding extraordinary and urgent circumstances,

On the other hand I find that petitions in favor of such a law have been received by the Government bearing the signatures of 579 men who are being deprived of that right, and 164 residents in this Colony who sympathize with them. I find that in the Treaty Ports of China a similar custom to this is practically in force, and it is reserved for the English free port of Hongkong to be the most un-English of them all. I have not yet heard any argument that I could consider would justify this Government in taking the extraordinary course proposed. The Sunday Cargo-working Ordinance having passed this Council, and received the royal assent, I can be no party to undoing it. The Government therefore oppose the second reading of the Bill which is now before the House, and propose that the Sunday Cargo-working Ordinance should at least have a fair trial.

A division was then taken, when all present, excepting Mr. Whitehead and Mr. Ho Kai, voted against the second reading.

ADJOURNMENT.

His Excellency intimated that, for the better consideration of the Ordinance, the Council would adjourn until the 17th August.

THE SUNDAY CARGO-WORKING BILL.

A telegram was received by the Government here this afternoon (29th ult.), from the Secretary of State, to the effect that H. M. the Queen had been advised not to exercise her power of disallowance in respect of the Sunday Cargo-working Ordinance recently passed by the Legislative Council. In other words, it will be in force on Sunday next, unless the amending Ordinance which Mr. T. H. Whitehead introduced into Council last Friday, and which is set down for its second reading next Friday, is by favor of the Government, committed, passed, a third time and approved from Downing Street next day. Whether that will be done or not it is impossible to say.

The petition against the approved Ordinance was actively circulated among the Chinese at day. It is apparently a translation of a chain of arguments advanced by a foreigner against Sunday rest, the effect being that as the Chinese do not believe in the European Sunday they should not be forced to obey a law that is not in accordance with their views. It quotes a speech which the late Governor once delivered, in opposition to the principle of the measure which has just been approved. It is being extensively signed, but whether the coolies who sign know anything about it or not is very doubtful.

THREATENED STRIKE OF 20,000 COOLIES.

AN ABSURD RUMOUR.

During the last few days a curious rumour has been afloat that the whole of the coolies in Hongkong were going to stop work. As they did so about three and a half years ago, and were only quietened by a display of force, several companies of the 58th Regiment being marched through the entire district, and a guard anchored off the Harbour Office—we sent a reporter to reconnoitre.

He found that on the 13th March the Sanitary Board passed a number of by-laws in connection with the licensing and regulating of common lodging-houses (meaning those resorted to by coolies) under Ordinance 26 of 1890. Under these by-laws not less than 300 cub feet were to be allotted to each occupant of the lodging-houses, and various other minor regulations were made, although no increase was made in the cost of the license. These by-laws were amended slightly on the 2nd April, and approved by the Council on the 2nd May. When the amended law was promulgated the coolie-house keepers at once took advantage of it. There are probably 30,000 coolies in Hongkong. Perhaps one-quarter of these, when not working as carriers, resort to fishing, etc. The others regularly occupy what the Chinese generally call *chut kun*—pig-sties, sleeping in bunks in rooms crowded far beyond anything in the experience of a London "summer." For this sleeping accommodation they pay from 30 to 50 cents a month. But since the promulgation of the new regulations, limiting the amount of space to be secured to each lodger, the keepers of these "dormitories" have started a new scheme for squeezing. They spread a rumour that Hongkong Government had been held responsible by the Russian authorities for the attempted assassination of the Czar, and had been ordered to pay an immense sum during the ensuing six years on pain of having Hongkong occupied by the Russians. The Hongkong Government had therefore increased the charges for sleeping in the boarding-houses about 10 per cent per month. Others said that a poll-tax had been levied by the Government, which necessitated an increased charge for sleeping in the lodging-houses. The Government issued a statement quite stating that this latter rumour was quite unfounded, but apparently the refutation has not reached the masses. A strike among the coolies is therefore looked upon as imminent. A similar scare some twelve years ago caused considerable trouble, especially in the eastern districts, and some apprehension is felt by employers just now. A number of exporters have been working their coolies over-time, in view of a possible cessation of labor, but up to the time of writing the carrying population had made no manifestation, owing, possibly, to the pains taken by the Registrar-General to explain the matter to the principals of the guild.

FROM FAR AWAY.

Under the above heading the *Atlantic Review* publishes the following interesting letter which was recently written from Amoy by Doctor Edward Beddoe, the U. S. Consul at that port, and who writes in the brightest pens of the day. "Your letter after wandering around the world like poor Odysseus in the Greek fable has at last ended its journey here on my desk. Its weather-worn, post-marked and well-thumbed envelope makes it look like a warrior after many wars. So old Atlantic has been having rough and tough weather? And the old Beddoe homestead, once the resort of silk stockinged, bejeweled gentlemen, and high-heeled, many-petioled dames, of 1800 A. D., is now but kindling-wood? The next thing I suppose will be the submergence of the entire planet and the conversion of the multitudinous hotels into Noah's Ark! Why don't you climb together and import your climate from Amoy? While you shiver from storm and snow, we pick our oranges and bananas from the trees, and sniff the roses and heliotropes in full bloom in our consular garden.

I love to write to friends, especially when the writing can be printed. Your letter goes into print and you become famous, more or less, generally less. Sometimes the intelligent compositor improves upon what you write and so brings chaos out of order. I have fallen into many scraps in this manner and have apologized

only by killing the "type." Nevertheless, I like to see my thoughts in print, especially when I am paid \$25 per column for it. Things of this sort take out a small income and make a man feel as if he were a coming Vanderbilt or Astor.

Our government favors literature and mildly suggests that all diplomatic representatives indulge occasionally in newspaper work. I like to follow their instructions and imagine myself on a par with such ministers as Whitelaw Reid and Emory Smith, and such consuls as Nathaniel Hawthorne and Bret Harte. It is pleasant to feel that you are of the literary immortals, even if you have a monopoly of the opinion.

But as to Amoy. The name in one of the Chinese dialects means the "Garden of Dad Smells" and is very appropriate. It is a human beehive with about a million bees. The streets vary from 3 to 5 feet in width and the boulevards from 5 to 9 feet. The houses are one story and a half in height. In the former they do business; in the latter they live. It is hardly needful to add that ventilation, fresh water, soap and sanitation are regarded as "foreign devils" by the average coolie. They take a bath once a year and then give a great party to celebrate their safe coming through the ordeal.

While the city is the filthiest and unhealthiest in the world, the harbor and surrounding country is the most beautiful. The district is really a vast bay covering a thousand square miles, filled up with romantic islands and granite crags. In some past age, the land for leagues must have been covered with vast glaciers, as everywhere there are the tell-tale marks of ice.

The glacier must have been over 1180 feet thick. If we are to judge by analogy and use Lyell's researches in Great Britain and Tyndall's in the Alps as our standards, the Amoy glacier was from half-a-mile to one mile thick and in its full career covered the Formosa channel. All of that island excepting a few high peaks and reached far out into the Pacific ocean.

The paucity of moraines and the wealth of boulders indicate that the glacial epoch terminated very quickly so far as Amoy is concerned. A glacier dies from one of two causes, either there is an increase of temperature too great for the continued existence of ice or there is a large decrease in the supply of the water which in congealed form goes to make it up. Somewhere there are but little soil, few moraines and many boulders on Kulang and Amoy, it is probable that both causes united in this instance to produce the present topographic and lithologic condition of the neighborhood and its surrounding territory.

The rocks mentioned indicate that there has never been any volcano nor volcanic action in the immediate neighborhood of Amoy. A few dolomite boulders with lava-filled veins prove that to the north or northwest there is a district which at one time was the scene of tremendous volcanic action. The absence of seams, faults or crevasses is evidence that there have never been any serious earthquakes in Amoy since, well, put it 500,000 years B. C., except it may be the dying tremor of some seismic convulsion many miles away. We are also led to the inference that there never was a volcano or an earthquake near Amoy so long as the present coast line remains unchanged in its general features.

Notice how delicately I bring in my scientific statements at this point. It doesn't harm any one, it pleases the college graduates who read your noble journal, and, above all, it reflects credit upon my studious habits. Above all I wish to call attention to the variegated assortment of adjectives I am enabled to employ. Pardon the egotism, but I think they are really worthy of Bill Nye or Micer Griswold, and than these two phrases of the pen no man alive can pick out more unwieldy and mysterious polysyllables.

"As for the people, they consist of 1 per cent. Mandarins, one per cent. well-to-do citizens and 98 per cent. poor devils of coolies. We Americans do not understand the labor problem of China. We oppose coolies and coolie traffic unwittingly. Let me say a few words on the other side of the house.

In combating evil, much evil is often done. Many years ago the coolie traffic led into untold misery and iniquities and at Macao, so many outrages were committed that public sentiment was aroused over the civilized world and the traffic was finally suppressed. So far all was well. But having achieved this victory, the reformers went a step further and tried to put an end to all coolie traffic no matter how or by whom conducted. Luckily for humanity in the Orient, this Quixotic endeavor failed, but in failing has done irreparable damage to commerce and civilization. The situation may be summed up in a few words.

Bartering Canton and Foochow, China is essentially an agricultural country. So long as the crops are good, the land is prosperous and the people happy. But wherever there is a bad harvest, a drought or inundation, myriads of workmen are thrown out of employment and forced to go elsewhere for their daily food. In this forced migration, enforced by hunger and nakedness, they naturally gravitate to the seacoast. Arrived there they must obtain work, become objects of charity or else emigrate. The amount of work to be done is limited and emigration is their chief, if not their *desideratum*.

For their labor as emigrants, there is an increasing demand. Great Britain requires them in Singapore, Penang, Pahang and North Borneo, not to speak of settlements of lesser importance. France has employment for hundreds of thousands in Cochinchina and Tonquin. Holland needs millions to work her magnificent colonies of Java, Sumatra, Borneo, and the Celebes. Each of these great powers has legislated wisely and well for the transportation, employment, maintenance and payment of coolies abroad. Each can point with pride to the success which has rewarded the Chinese workmen who have left home for their foreign settlements. Each is eager to welcome untold armies more.

But a false and sticky sentiment steps in and throws every obstacle possible in the way of emigration. As a result thousands die annually of starvation and hundreds of thousands manage with infinite suffering to keep body and soul together. Were the gates opened there would be a new era of prosperity for the European Colonies in the East, a better condition for China and the Chinese along the entire seaboard and a commercial development and progress for Amoy which would make this quiet city one of the busiest and wealthiest in the Far East Kingdom.

I don't think there is a particle of bias in these lines. They represent what I feel after having seen and studied the problem as thoroughly as an American can in the great Middle Kingdom.

There is a volume more to be said. It will not be said here, as I am preparing it for publication as a subscription book, and hope to sell it at \$5 per copy.

NOTES FROM CHINESE PAPERS.

Four thousand eight hundred piculs of Yunnan copper have been taken down by steamer from Ichang.

Five prisoners charged with highway robbery were executed at Nanking about a week ago.

By the capsizing of a passenger boat three men were recently drowned at Wenchow. The authorities are inquiring whether the accident was caused by the wind or the overcrowding of the boat.

A private soldier of the Paokai hill garrison camp in Chinkiang and his wife both committed suicide at the same time. No reason can be assigned for the act. The burial expenses were paid by the commanders.

Eleven more of the Wenchow bandits have been captured by the village volunteers. There are no leaders among the prisoners. Two of them have been convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for life. The rest are still awaiting the decision of the high authorities.

The Governor of Yunnan and Kweichow, Wong Wen-sun, reports to the Throne, in a memorial dated the 10th of the 6th moon, that most of the officers in the camps under his jurisdiction are in the habit of receiving bribes, and never do their duty properly. The Governor prays that the officers in fault be degraded.

While a government topographical survey was being made in the Shanshan district of Chikiang, some country people took offense and maltreated the surveying party and his staff. Runners sent to make arrests also met with resistance and were completely routed. The village elders called a meeting and proposed a compromise which was accepted by the authorities.

During last year H. E. Sheng, Taotai of Cheloo, distinguished himself by his energy in collecting funds for the relief of distress caused by the floods in Shantung province, he himself subscribing Tls. 1,000 towards the same object. In consequence of this charity, Chang Yao, the Provincial Governor, has petitioned the Throne, praying that a high decoration be conferred on Sheng, which has been approved.

During the annual street procession in Soochow the crowd became so dense in one of the by-streets that three unfinished buildings collapsed with a fearful crash. Four men were fatally injured, and one woman with a child in her arms was killed outright. A water-melon dealer in a boat anchored close by the shore also perished, struck by the falling beams which sank the boat as well; and several other men were more or less injured. The authorities are now busy holding inquests.

At Huachang, on the Grand Canal, near Talingang Pa, there is great want of rain. Water is very scarce, even the usual stagnant pools being dry. The City Commandant has ordered soldiers to rig up a water drawing machine and work it. By this means water is being supplied. But at the same time swarms of locusts are devouring the crops and vegetation. Detachments of troops are now detailed to fight and exterminate these pests.

A member of the Fukien Secret Revolutionary Society was caught in Chowchow Fu. On his trial he stoutly refused to implicate his comrades or to say where the headquarters of the society were. He exclaimed that though the plans of the society had failed yet he died content, with the feeling that he had done something. He laughed aloud and stamped his confession with his thumb daubed in ink. The authorities are doing their best to unearth the den of the secret revolutionists.

A new rifle has lately been turned out of the Kiangnan Arsenal, Shanghai, for which a very great penetrative power is claimed. The manager has sent two of the guns to Li Hung-chang for inspection; Li sent them in turn to the Director of the Tientsin Naval College with a request that he might make a report thereon. The report must have been most satisfactory for the Viceroy has sanctioned the manufacture of a considerable number of the rifles, and ordered that they be distributed amongst the soldiers.

Along the Yang-king-pang, between the Honan and Shantung Road bridges, there are great numbers of flower opium dens, about which all sorts of loafers and idlers thickenly congregate, to the great annoyance of passers-by. The vagabonds attack people frequently and are continually maltreating the poor girls without any cause whatever, but for the object of creating confusion in which they may steal things. A few Sikhs or European constables who are in this locality would be of great use in putting down this nuisance.

The Commander of the Chinkai garrison forces has received orders from the Chikiang Governor to proceed with forces to Wenchow against the bandits who have been making bold incursions on the suburban villages of the city and threatening the city itself. The three bandits captured by the rustic volunteers have been put on trial. They have been very badly treated by their enraged captors, as many wounds on their persons testify. Though much tortured no confession has been extracted from them, and doubt is raised whether these men are really members of the dreaded mountain bands or whether they have been accused because of having incurred the enmity of some of the rustics.

In one of the suburban villages outside Nanking lived a farmer and his wife. By dint of hard work and diligence they made enough for their daily necessities. Lately the farmer went to the city to sell some of his produce, leaving the woman alone in the house. About midnight several robbers broke into the premises and demanded money. The frightened woman having nothing to give, she was plundered of all its effects, which were not worth much. What caused the husband greater sorrow was that the poor victim was near her confinement. The Nanking magistrate held an inquest and defrayed all the burial expenses. Warrants are out for the arrest of the murderer, who when caught will no doubt suffer immediate decapitation.

During the personal inspection by the city commandant of Wenchow one night he found the Mahang gate wide open and not a soldier on guard duty. For a moment he was astonished at the negligence of the official keeper, especially as there were rumors that bandits were watching for an opportunity to enter the walls with the object of plundering the pawn-shops. He called out aloud but no voice answered. A search was made and the official keeper at last appeared, drunk as a lord, while the bandits, infected by the example of their chief, had gone "on a spree." The commandant soon brought the keeper to his senses by means of pretty strong threats. The gates were closed and the keeper and his guards placed under lock and key.

The leaders in both Native papers, commenting on the decision recently come to by both Municipal Councils, with respect to women frequenting opium-shops, say there is no sense whatever in keeping women and girls out of the opium-shops if they do not prohibit their visiting the tea-houses also. There are many shops for the sale of both tea and opium, and the action of the Council only applies to the opium department, so the women simply go over to the "tea side" of the house where they carry on with the young men more scandalously than ever. On the other hand, the business of these establishments which are only opium-houses, is quite ruined, while that of the tea-shops flourishes. Perhaps the Councils may see their way later to issue the very desirable prohibition against the frequenting of tea-houses by women, who are like attractive signboards, and lure by a magnetic influence young men to their destruction in those dens of vice.

Yenpien is a village in the district of Nanhai, Kuangtung. Years ago foreign missionaries settled down and built a church, living amicably with and preaching freely to the inhabitants. Nothing ever occurred to disturb the cordial relations between the preachers and the rustics until the 14th ult., when a woman proclaimed that she had lost her son, fourteen years old, and that she suspected the missionaries had stolen and concealed him within the church. She gathered a crowd and led it into the church to make a search. The patrolling guards were mustered, and in an encounter between them and some of the mob bent on plunder, two men were wounded, and captured. A later report says that hundreds of people gathered with the intention of destroying the church, but soldiers arrived, dispersed the crowd, and arrested three leaders. A still later report states that both the church and school were torn down. When the troops reached the place the people had already retired. Eight persons were made. One of the mob leaders was killed outright and an inquest was held on his body. There are over one hundred converts in the village.

HANKOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Yesterday we had more talk of rebellions. The story was that a large band of thousands of bandits under the leadership of a son of Li Chang-shan, an old rebel chief, had crossed into Hupoh from Honan. They had burned many houses, and captured the city of Maching, putting the mandarin in charge to death. To-day the story has shrunk considerably. The thousands have become thirty or forty robbers whose depredations were carried on in the neighbourhood of Shanghai, just over the border. They had taken, not Maching, but three and twenty wheelbarrows, which were slowly wending their way towards Hankow, in charge of Whangpi barrowmen. The houses burned down were some roadside inns, and the robbers had taken themselves off to the mountains. It is impossible to say that this is the truth, and the whole truth, but such incidents are not unusual in that locality, and it was the arrival of the people who had been plundered, which filled the town with talk.

To-day a meeting of landowners, originally called for the 15th inst., was held in the court room of the British Consulate, in order to elect a member of the Municipal Council in place of Mr. H. Whistler gone home; and to give residents an opportunity of making suggestions regarding the defence of the settlement, police, and sanitary matters, etc. There were eighteen landowners and residents present; Council C. T. Gardner occupying the chair. As only one gentleman, Mr. C. W. Gordon, had been proposed, he was declared a duly elected Municipal Councillor.

Mr. A. E. Reynell, Chairman of the Council, informed the meeting that in consequence of the recent trouble, the approaching triennial examinations and the unsettled state of matters generally, they had increased the staff of native constables by fifty men. They had also tendered of police at a monthly salary of Tls. 200. These alterations would involve an increased expenditure of Tls. 1,200, and, further, Police Inspector Drury had so discharged the heavy duties lately falling upon him as to well deserve an increase of salary. These statements were listened to with much satisfaction.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. H. W. Andrews, American Consul, to state the arrangements which had been made by the defence committee, remarking that it was of the first importance the public should know what was being done; and that naval and other authorities were deeply interested in such information. Mr. Andrews said the signal alarm would be the firing of three guns and the houses of Messrs. H. H. H. & Co. and Messrs. H. H. H. & Co. were the safety stations to which all ladies and children were to be immediately conducted. A list had been made of all the residents, and men told off for each house from which ladies and children would have to be brought. Copies of these arrangements would shortly be distributed. If a suitable steamer were available the non-combatants would be placed on board, and these, once in safety, would proceed to clear the concession. For this purpose there was at their disposal a force of 95 men, with fire-arms of various sorts. Of these, 35 were rifles with bayonets, 10 were shot-guns, and 50 were spears. If obtained the present organization might be made permanent. It would also be very advisable to have a machine gun. All these statements gave much gratification.

A question put by Mr. S. Smith to the Chairman, as to whether anything further was being done with regard to getting the Wanchow rioters duly punished, led the Chairman to state fully that this matter had been by no means closed with the decapitation of the two men. The Viceroy had agreed that a re-trial must be held, and eight men were already in custody who would be tried in the presence of his deputy, the Rev. S. Bramhill and Mr. Milne. The Viceroy had also agreed to award for the apprehension of other rioters for information regarding them were amongst the military. They had been tried in the presence of his deputy, the Rev. Mr. Bramhill, who was satisfied they were ringleaders, and the heads had been recognized by witnesses afterwards. A large crowd of natives had gathered in the markets of the meeting, an expression of their sense of the great trust, ability, patience and tenacity of purpose shown by the Council in the conduct of this most difficult matter, which the Council begged them not to.

There was some further conversation as to the obtaining of more arms, and whether, as at Shanghai, a grant might not be obtainable from the British Government. Also as to how a machine gun might be got, and the desirability of having a steam fire engine which, it was thought, would be a machine which in an uproar might prove as useful as a gun. This latter the Council were authorized by the meeting to purchase, and the arms matter was left in their hands. A vote of thanks to the Chairman, and the meeting separated.

All is now quiet in this centre. The heat is in the nineties, and the river within three feet of being bund full.—N. C. Daily News.

CHINKIANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

July 22nd.

At Thursday we had another of the Tientsin processions. It was brought on this time, I am told, at the expense of the officials as a thank-offering for the abundant rain of the week before. But the procession this time proved a very tame affair, mostly either because of the shortness of the notice or the business of the season, or because even among the Chinese, fewer persons are found to give thanks for blessings received than to pray for the same.

The officials have at the last, at the urgent request of our consuls, moved the Emperor's proclamation in regard to the riots. It seems to be having a good effect on the people. They do not say of this as they did of the officials, that it was issued because of foreign money. Some robberies were committed the first part of this month in the Tientsin neighbourhood. A few days ago the runners thought they had discovered the robbers on a boat near Tientsin. In consequence of several guard boats an attack was made on the suspicious boat and fourteen arrests were made. As some foreign muskets, good clothing, etc. were found on the boat they felt very sure of their having the right men, and they returned in triumph with them to Chinkiang. But to their chagrin on examination the men proved to be an innocent (?) party of Hunan soldiers returning home.

Locusts are said to be ravaging the country north of the river, and yesterday several large swarms were seen passing over the city going southward.

Wear having hot oppressive weather.—N. C. Daily News.

WUCHANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

July 23rd.

The city is all astir with the news of the rising in the north of the province. The facts are, as usual in China, kept as secret as possible for fear of a panic, but where news is bottled up in one's eight different yamens, the cork is apt to come out. Apparently the insurgents started from the Honan border, and have moved through Maifien Hsien to Chihai Hsien in the Huangchow Prefecture. Amidst conflicting reports it is difficult to sift the truth. A Hsien magistrate has been killed, possibly a city wall damaged; probably the insurgents are hungry and are in search of food rather than anything more serious. The leader's name is mentioned as that of the son of one of the better known bandits of the days after the Taping rebellion, but that may be mere report. Certain it is that a certain number of country-folk have fled here for refuge. Soldiers have been sent to the scene of disturbance; no doubt the rising will be quelled with mercifully little loss of life. The bad crops in many parts will render us liable to these outbreaks.

Chinese officialdom is not prone to err on the side of fastidious mercy. A man was arrested at Wuchang a fortnight ago; he is not supposed to be connected with the riot, but is said to belong to the Kolo Hul. The Huangchow Commandant sliced off his ears and after a day or two sent him to Wuchang with a string through his collar-bone.

There has been a striking instance of rapid salariness here during the last few weeks. A Taoist nun stationed herself near the Viceroy's yamen, beating her wooden drum incessantly; she professed to be from Canton and was claiming from His Excellency the discharge of an unpaid temple subscription. Meanwhile the report spread that the Viceroy was about to leave the city, and the nun, hearing of the affair, while ordered her way under the care of the city guard. She tried to drown herself, but was thrice rescued; then under the care of two soldiers and two runners, who were charged with preventing her from further mischief, she resumed her ministry of healing, through the help of a little wooden idol. The people came in crowds and for days past an open place near the Viceroy's College has been thronged from morning to night with maimed, lame, halt, and blind. Incense sellers thronged to the spot and have driven a roaring—and crackling—trade. The nun would take a cup of water from a puddle, stir up some incense and blow it over the patient, on the mixture and give an infallible cure for any miscellaneous disease. Little apples, breaded ones, have been especially popular for convenience of carriage to the bodies of the sick. The aggregate fees have been very considerable and of course have been shared with the escort, who claimed that their presence gave official sanction to the lady healer. An unfortunate difference as to cash led to the arrest by the runner of a young gentleman, who proved to be a son of the Literary Chancellor, and the district magistrate flogging on the face of the very summarily with the soldiers. Saintly as he was, this little incident it will simply move his theatre of operations. Many a temple has owed its origin to similar chance developments of knavery. Meanwhile processions go hanging and drumming through the streets to get rid of noxious vapours, and diseases engendered by drought.—N. C. Daily News.

T'IENTSIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

July 25th.

The storming of the Bastille, and what was involved therein, were brought to mind yesterday in the observance of the day by our friends of the French Republic. Most of the members of the foreign community attended the Consulate the evening before their good wishes for the prosperity of the State, to listen to music discoursed by the band, to enjoy a promenade in the illuminated gardens, and to witness one of the finest displays of fireworks that has ever been given in Tientsin. The band, in front of the Consulate and the grounds were well lighted with a great number of paper lanterns in different colours, while as one looked into the grounds from the front gate, the grass and flowers presented the appearance of containing innumerable glow-worms, produced by placing little oil lamps all about upon the ground. In addition to the ordinary fireworks, such as rockets, rockets, bombs exploding in mid-air with beautiful effect, there were successively suspended in front of the entrance several of those complicated pyrotechnics which in their combustion display a variety of beautiful designs. At one time the letters "R.F." came out distinctly in pale blue, with suitable setting. A variety of other figures, including Chinese characters, were shown with equal clearness.

There was a very large crowd of Chinese on the band with the "pavilion" that always attends such masses of people but there was no disorder whatever. As soon as the display was over, they dispersed as quietly as they had come, and it would be difficult to say whence or whether they came to see the fireworks.

For some days we have had very hot, oppressive weather, with "humid atmosphere." There has been a good deal of rain, but it has not been much, and the ground is still very dry. The rain has fallen at its place. "Peking" the report comes, that no rain had fallen up to the beginning of this month, and that it had been so dry that planting of autumn crops had yet taken place. Probably this is not true of the greater part of the province. Rain has fallen over most of the plain. There has been a slight rise in the river. There is a slight apprehension of a flood, or even of a very high water level. "Peking" comes up to the fact that the river has risen to a perfectly quiet level, and the relation between the Chinese and foreigners appear to be satisfactory.

days for some time past; a double blessing intended by our kind heavenly father in killing the locusts as well as making the ground to bring forth. The fall crops, beans and sweet potatoes, are planted and give fair promise of preventing a famine this year.

During the drought, the Taoist, who is evidently religiously inclined, was assiduous in his efforts to obtain rain. He had one of the iron tablets, recently referred to by your Shantung correspondent, brought down; and wearing coarse clothes and straw shoes, with a willow wreath on his head, he twice daily walked to the temple to pray for rain. After some days the iron tablet was passed on to Whalan, proving unsatisfactory for this section of the country; then nine Buddhist and nine Taoist priests were employed to pray, and to make them more earnest and zealous in their praying they were not allowed any shelter but were made to stand out in the hot sun all day. This novel plan must have been anything but pleasant to the Buddhist priests with their shaven heads. These priests were to have 500 cash each per day and five taels each when rain came.

A good story is told in our *Yamen* of a bannerman by the name of Ch'ong. Every ten days during the drought, he issued proclamations forbidding the slaughtering of animals for only two days at a time. At first these proclamations were very mild, but later on read thus: "Obeying my superior this proclamation is issued, and again we beseech the favour of heaven. Sheep, horses, and all such animals must not be slaughtered nor must they be hurt by men. Chickens, ducks, fish, and all shrimp must not be sold for food. Onions and garlic must not be eaten. Let no one lightly or negligently regard this. If anyone purposely disregard this proclamation he will be brought before the magistrate, beaten and made to wear the cage." Before the paste of this proclamation was dry the Hsien's cook entered the yamen with some fish, but he was challenged, examined and the fish found on him. Although the runners were told that the fish was for the Hsien, they turned a deaf ear, and reminding the cook of the cast-iron proclamation, relieved him of the fish. The cook duly reported the matter to the Hsien; and the two runners, who dared to carry out his own proclamation, were beaten and made to refund the 200 cash paid out for the fish.

With such an example from an official, is it any wonder proclamations do not have their desired effect?—N. C. Daily News.

TIENTSIN.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Tientsin, July 13th.

To-morrow will be the day for the declaration of the dividend of the Taku Tug and Lighter Company. It was reported 8 per cent, would be declared, but now it is currently reported that 7 per cent will be the figure. This, with other little matters, has sent the shares down to Tael 50.

At last the Decree has been issued, and reached here at the end of last week for the extension of the railway line from Liu Hsi towards Shai-hsien-kuan. For the present only sixty Hsien is to be laid, and it is to be a government line. It is to join the T'ai Shan line. Messrs. Chen and Li are to be the chiefs. Mr. Li Hung-chang has been pleased to appoint Mr. W. N. Patrick to the chief supervision of this line.

From Shing-king, southeast of Newchwang, in Tientsin, a sample of clay has been forwarded. It is of a greyish colour, having a very peculiar odour, and resembling mineral wax. The natives use it for wicks in their oil lamps, and it burns well. Besides this clay, specimens of iron ore have been forwarded, of very superior quality, being almost all iron, also some rich quartz containing gold, which runs through the quartz like threads, and nuggets have been found weighing as much as three ounces. The sand also contains a quantity of gold dust. Another sample of dark brown clay emits a strong oily odour, and petroleum is reported to exist there. Very fine specimens of soft and hard coal have also been forwarded. These samples have all been forwarded to Peking, and no doubt I shall hear more about this when Mr. John Pringle, an expert, gets there. The specimens of coal from the north-west of Newchwang, especially those from Liaoyang district, are said to be of excellent quality.

The German bishop left here for Shantung, accompanied by two priests. Before leaving they had an interview with Li Hung-chang.

To-morrow our French residents will celebrate the 14th July with great pomp. All nationalities have been cordially invited to join in the festivities.—*Mercury*.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

July 25th.

The storming of the Bastille, and what was involved therein, were brought to mind yesterday in the observance of the day by our friends of the French Republic. Most of the members of the foreign community attended the Consulate the evening before their good wishes for the prosperity of the State, to listen to music discoursed by the band, to enjoy a promenade in the illuminated gardens, and to witness one of the finest displays of fireworks that has ever been given in Tientsin. The band, in front of the Consulate and the grounds were well lighted with a great number of paper lanterns in different colours, while as one looked into the grounds from the front gate, the grass and flowers presented the appearance of containing innumerable glow-worms, produced by placing little oil lamps all about upon the ground. In addition to the ordinary fireworks, such as rockets, rockets, bombs exploding in mid-air with beautiful effect, there were successively suspended in front of the entrance several of those complicated pyrotechnics which in their combustion display a variety of beautiful designs. At one time the letters "R.F." came out distinctly in pale blue, with suitable setting. A variety of other figures, including Chinese characters, were shown with equal clearness.

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SUPREME COURT.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

(Before Mr. E. J. Acland, Acting Chief Justice.)

July 29th.

THE CREDIBILITY OF EPIPLAHS.

In the overland Tang A Lok will case today his Lordship gave judgment on a side issue raised by Mr. Francis for the plaintiff as to whether evidence of inspection on tombstones of the Tang tribe could be taken. Mr. Leach for the defence asserted that the plaintiff had had the inscriptions altered, and it was desired to bring evidence on the subject, to show that if the epiplahs had been truthful it would have supported defendant's case.

In giving judgment his Lordship quoted a number of valuable authorities, one of whom said, as if in anticipation of the Tang A Lok case, "If human life were a thing of a thousand years, then inquiries of this sort might be undertaken." After full consideration his Lordship thought the disputed evidence, which was already given could not now be struck out. He thought, however, that for the future the less strictly relevant evidence might be avoided.

Witnesses were then called to speak of affairs in the year 206 B.C.

Left at it.

HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held at the offices of the General Managers (Messrs. Shewan & Co.) on the 1st inst. There were present Messrs. D. Gillies (Chairman), R. G. Shewan, S. I. Danby, G. H. Potts, J. S. Moses, T. E. Davies, and M. S. S. Sarson.

The Chairman said—Gentlemen, I think it is not necessary for me to say much with regard to the proposed resolutions, as they have been in your hands for some time and I have no doubt they have had your careful consideration. The object of the modifications in the Articles of Association is to put a little more power into the hands of the consulting committee, so that without curtailing in any way the efficient working of the company it will provide for any emergency that may occur in the future similar to that which happened in the case of the failure of Messrs. Russell and Co. There have been no radical changes made in the Articles of Association. We have simply provided that, should the necessity occur for doing so, the shareholders themselves may be called upon to make a change should it be deemed advisable in the general management of the Company. I am sure you will all admit the necessity that exists for making this change. The business of the Company, I am very pleased to inform you, has been very prosperous, and last month has been better than any previous month we have had, the returns being very good, not only as regards the amount of rope manufactured but also with regard to the returns. (Applause.) The statement of accounts up to 10th June has not been audited and of course I cannot vouch for its correctness, but from the statement it appears that the Company, in Shanghai, are indebted to us in the sum of \$16,308, and that the company has in its hands bills to collect or bills as collected amounting to \$7,000, making in all a debit of \$23,308 against the Company, which may eventually be a loss. With regard to the company it is unnecessary to state what are the intentions of the consulting committee. We shall endeavour to recover as much as we can. Counsel's opinion is favourable to us. I hope we shall be able to get \$7,000 from the company. With regard to the other \$16,000, I think I need hardly say anything about it. We have to share in the name of Mr. Tomes and 10 in the name of Ng Chow Fong, company to Messrs. Russell and Co. over which the Company has a lien, and these will no doubt revert to the company. We have been advised that it is not necessary to advertise that the Company has a lien upon those shares. All that is necessary for us to do is to refuse to transfer these shares should they be sent in for registration.

Resolutions for the purpose of altering the Articles of Association were then proposed to the meeting by the Chairman. The alterations included the appointment of Messrs. Shewan & Co. as General Managers subject to the control of the Consulting Committee; that the Consulting Committee should choose one of their number as Chairman; that the General Managers should receive all moneys and pay such part thereof as shall not be re-employed for the purposes of the Company into the Company's Bankers to the credit of the Company.

The resolutions were carried unanimously.

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held on the 1st inst. The meeting was presided over by Mr. G. H. Potts, Chairman. Present: Mr. G. H. Potts, Mr. W. H. Wallace, and C. Klineck.

The Chairman said—Gentlemen, in compliance with your wishes expressed at last meeting, Mr. Cox and I have gone very carefully over the articles of association and we have prepared such modifications only as we thought essentially necessary in the interests of the shareholders, considering the change which has been made in the general management. The modifications are, I think, on the whole, very fair with regard to the General Managers' remuneration. It has not been reduced so much as perhaps it might have been, but taking into consideration that a large proportion of the commissions go to the Amoy and Manila people, I think you will admit that the General Managers in Hongkong are not overpaid. We have looked very carefully through the articles of association, and the modifications have been printed and were placed in your hands some time ago, and if there are any amendments to be made we shall be very glad to be advised by you. You are aware that the company of Messrs. Russell and Co. is indebted to the Company to the large amount of \$26,000, and of this amount about \$15,000 only will probably be recovered. The Company are taking steps to recover the balance by instituting an action against the company, which I hope will be successful. It was the intention of the committee to appropriate a number of shares that are in the names of members of the late firm of Russell & Co., but as these shares stand in their names we were advised by our solicitors that in transferring them we had lost the lien we had upon them. The only shares we can confiscate are 50 standing in the name of Mr. Tomes. These we have confiscated, and this reduces the loss by \$4,000. I don't think it is necessary for me to say anything with regard to the amendments. It has no doubt that Messrs. Shewan & Co. will give the interests of the Company their best attention and that the work of the company will be found to be satisfactory when we meet again at our next yearly meeting.

Certain special resolutions altering the Articles of Association were then proposed by the Chairman. These were:—The appointment of Messrs. Shewan & Co. as General Managers

and the settlement of their remuneration as such, which is to be a commission of 5 per cent. on the gross amount of all outward passage money and freight from Hongkong and other revenue, and 1 per cent. on the gross inward passage money and freight collected or received in Hongkong in respect of the working of the undertaking of the Company, and a commission of 20 per cent. on all disbursements made in Hongkong, and also a commission of 1 per cent. on the purchase or on the sale of any of the Company's steamers.

The resolutions were carried unanimously.

THE TYPHOON.

Fortunately there is little to be written about Sunday's typhoon, if the blow that did occur, could really be called one. So far as we can learn there is a happy absence of the casualties that usually attend the passing of such storms amongst the floating population in the harbour, and this is due to the timely warnings given from the Observatory and which the people had the wisdom to profit by. Steam-launches did a big trade all day Sunday by towing sampans and other craft to the shelter that the breakwater at Quarry Bay affords. By ten o'clock on Sunday evening the harbour was quite clear of its usual fleet of steam-launches, the only one out at that time was one engaged to carry the *Peninsular's* passengers across to Kowloon and a pretty rough experience they had; all, including a number of ladies, being thoroughly drenched and somewhat frightened. The signal gun at Kowloon was fired at about 10 p.m. to indicate that a gale was approaching and by eleven o'clock both the wind and sea had risen considerably and throughout the night the former blew with varying force. As communication with the out-stations has been interrupted we are unable to state definitely what amount of damage if any has occurred. Several steamers that were to have sailed on Monday, wisely remained at anchor, including the *P. & O. Company's Peninsular* with mails and passengers for the North.

In connection with the typhoon Dr. Döberck has kindly forwarded us the following particulars of the observations taken by him at Kowloon:

ACCOUNT OF THE TYPHOON OF JULY 29TH.

TO AUGUST 3RD, 1891.

At 4 p.m. on the 29th July the following notice was issued: "There appears to be a typhoon in the Pacific," and at 4 p.m. on the 29th, "A small typhoon appears to have crossed the southern Philippines and entered the China Sea." The wind blew a fresh E.S.E. breeze in Bolinao on this day, and fresh to S.E. the next day. The barometer continued falling, with clear, hot, and dry weather and slight gradients in southern China. The small typhoon moved northwards in the China Sea, and on the 29th the barometer began to rise in Bolinao, showing that the centre had passed the latitude. On the morning of the 30th the following notice was issued: "There is a depression in the China Sea to the south of Hongkong. Fresh E. winds along the southern coast of China, S.E. winds in Luzon, and fresh S.W. winds, with squally weather in the China Sea," and at 3 p.m. directions to hoist the Red Cone pointing downwards. On the 31st it was intimated that the centre was to the eastward of the Paracels, and that gales along the China coast were steep for N.E. winds. On the 1st of August the signs of a typhoon were much slighter, but that was due to the exceptionally slow motion of the centre. At 1.30 a.m. on the 2nd the following notice was issued: "The centre of the depression has now moved towards a point on the coast between Hongkong and Swatow," and directions were given to hoist the Black Cone pointing downwards. At 7.10 p.m. directions were given to hoist lanterns horizontally, and at 9.30 p.m. to fire the gun one round. The lanterns hoisted horizontally indicated bad weather, and that the wind would back, as it would have done had the centre continued its course and entered the mainland, but the strong E. wind blowing through the Balintang Channel was too much for it and it was sharply deflected towards the west, as often happens. This occurred about 11 p.m. and at midnight the lanterns were hoisted vertically to show that the centre had changed its direction and was moving westward to the south of the colony. The lowest hourly reading of the barometer, 29.308 (reduced to 32 deg. and M.S.L.) was entered at 4 a.m. on the 3rd, and the greatest wind force, 61 miles an hour, was registered at 5 a.m. At 10 a.m. directions were given to hoist the black ball and the following notice was issued: "The centre of the depression is at present W.S.W. of Hongkong, moving westward."

Reduced to 32 deg. and M.S.L.

Aug. 2nd.	deg. Fahr.	Wind.	Signal.
10 a.m.	35.0	N. 3	
11 a.m.	34.4	E. 3	Black inverted cone.
Noon	35.6	N.E. 2	
1 p.m.	35.8	N.E. 3	
2 p.m.	35.9	N.E. 4	
3 p.m.	35.4	N.N.E. 6	
4 p.m.	35.2	N. 6	
5 p.m.	34.5	N.N.E. 4	
6 p.m.	34.2	N.N.E. 6	
7 p.m.	34.2	N.N.E. 6	Lanterns horizontally
8 p.m.	34.3	N.N.E. 6	
9 p.m.	34.5	N.N.E. 7	Gun: one round
10 p.m.	34.8	N.E. 8	
11 p.m.	34.8	N.E. 8	
Midn.	35.8	N.E. 9	Lanterns vertically
Aug. 3rd.			
1 a.m.	36.1	E.N.E. 9	
2 a.m.	36.6	E.N.E. 9	
3 a.m.	36.4	E.N.E. 9	
4 a.m.	36.8	E. 9	
5 a.m.	35.4	E.S.E. 10	Strongest wind (61 miles an hour)
6 a.m.	40.2	E. by S. 9	
7 a.m.	42.4	E. by S. 9	
8 a.m.	44.0	E.S.E. 9	
9 a.m.	46.7	E.S.E. 9	
10 a.m.	47.9	S.E. 8	Black Ball

A TALK ABOUT TEA.

FROM FORMOSA.

Tamsui, July 24th.

The tea-season of 1891 is in full blast, and the tea-market is as lively as an Irish fair. I have just been studying a trick in the trade and there are more tricks in the tea trade of the East than in any other known to man. The true inwardness of this particular trick is as follows. Two-thirds of all the tea-growers in the Amoy province, and in Formosa are poor men who have to borrow money to raise and move their crops. They obtain the needed money from the native money-lenders, and the difference to whom they apply is each day 5 per cent. on the loan, taken the land and growing crop as collateral security and imposes the hard condition that he shall have the first choice of buying the new leaf at the market rates. As the crop comes in the money lenders hold back and bear the market as much as it will stand, and do nothing until there are signs of a fall in the market. Then they buy largely at the lowest figures and shortly afterwards jump the price, so as to

prevent interference from less long-headed operators.

To-day the market occurred, prices were made and the machinery of exportation set in motion. The quotations this morning at Tamsui, which is the tea-emporium of Formosa, were as follows, \$18 per picul for the poorest, \$22 for medium and \$31 for fine and superior grades. This is about 10 per cent higher than it was this time last year.

The outlook this season is extremely good. In Formosa, there are three crops of tea annually. The present one is the first and is now estimated to be between 180,000 and 200,000 half-chests each weighing 45 lbs. The second crop is estimated at from 100,000 to 150,000 half-chests, a very heavy advance upon that of last year which was 30,000. The prices then ran from \$45 to \$100 per picul; this year on account of the splendid quality of the tea they will be much higher.

The third crop will reach 130,000 half-chests this year and may even go as high as 150,000. The prices last year were from \$24 to \$40 per picul, and they will probably be about the same this season.

The three crops, or annual output of Formosa may be figured between 300,000 and 425,000 half-chests, or in weight between 15,000,000 and 17,000,000 lbs. This in value will be between \$9,000,000 and \$14,000,000. It will pay an internal revenue tax to the Chinese Government of \$4,000,000, and an export tax of an equally large amount. The packing and transportation to Amoy and Hongkong, from which it is exported to the United States and Great Britain, will cost between \$1,000,000 and \$1,800,000.

The Chinese merchants and officials with whom I have conversed state that the crops this year are slightly larger and very much finer than ever before in the history of Formosa; that while the yield per acre has fallen off owing to a warm winter and a dry spring, the increase in acreage has more than made up for the deficiency; and that the success this year would undoubtedly lead to a large extension of the culture and a greatly augmented production.

This will be good news for lovers of tea. Formosa tea is the best in the world. It is so popular that unscrupulous dealers in Japan, India, and Australia, have been doing a large business in sending to the market their own goods put up in imitation of the Formosa article. The new law compelling importers to brand each package with the name of the place it comes from has struck a blow at the evil and has given much satisfaction to the merchants in China. It may be questioned, however, if the statute goes far enough and if further legislation is not necessary. I have had the opportunity of studying tea-culture in Ceylon and Formosa, and find that there is great room here, not so much for improvement as for the cheapening of the curing-processes. The Chinese still cure the leaf in small bamboo baskets over charcoal fires in the same way as did their ancestors thirty years ago. The new methods, invented chiefly if not solely by Englishmen, use copper, iron, or porcelain plates, hot dry air and more or less labor-saving machinery. The result is a great saving in time and labor and the production of a very uniform article. The Chinese object to the new processes on the ground that they destroy the bouquet of the fine leaf, and add an unpleasant metallic flavor to the herb. They make the further objection that the new system would throw thousands out of employment and so injure the nation. I am not yet a tea-expert and can not therefore give a valid opinion upon the justice of their first objection. But as the Chinese long-keepers begin to favor the application of the new processes to the cheaper and poorer grades, it is certain that they will be in full operation within the next five years.

Amoy teas are still on the downward path. Last year the output was 50,000 half-chests or 2,500,000 lbs. and the average price \$13 per picul (or 10 cents per lb). This year it will not exceed 40,000 half-chests in quantity, or \$12.50 per picul. When it is remembered that at one time Amoy was the greatest tea-country in the world and exported as high as 500,000 half-chests (ten times its present production) the decay of the industry is easily realized. This tremendous change is due to a regret to say, almost entirely to dishonesty and rapacity on the part of the trade, native and foreign. As one time the Amoy teas were excellent and the tea-districts correspondingly prosperous. The planters fell into debt to the usurers and merchants, and were so blinded and fleeced that they lost all interest in their calling. The quality of the leaf fell off, as did the quantity. Then to carry out contracts as to specific amounts, the leaf was adulterated with other leaves, with sweepings and even in some cases with dirt. By degrees its reputation fell, until it became known as the vilest and filthiest compound in the market. To-day as tea-drinkers knowingly use it. In those days Amoy did a business of about \$50,000,000; now it does 40,000,000. Now the figures are exactly reversed. The decadence of the Amoy industry has taught one good lesson. It showed the usurers that Amoy did not and could not monopolize the culture of tea. To-day they are afraid to apply the screws to the full limit to the Formosa planters, knowing that if they do, the trade will fly off here as it did in Amoy and will revert to Japan, Korea, Ceylon and India.

Tea-culture is assuming large proportions outside of the Chinese boundaries. The Spanish authorities have tried to raise it in the Philippines; the Dutch in Sumatra, Java and Borneo; the English in the Straits Settlements and the French in Cochinchina. Nearly all these experiments have been failures; the only success reported being from mountainous countries, where there was moisture, good soil and not an excess of warmth. The Dutch have turned this discovery to account and now confine their efforts to the high mountainous districts, with which their colonial possessions abound. While good tea has been produced in a number of places under these auspices, the quality has been very inferior to the fine growths of Formosa and Fochow.

Chops running from \$100 to \$300, per picul are not uncommon, while now and then, extra fine pickings find customers who pay from \$10, to \$50, a pound! In Russia and Japan and above all in China there are epicures, more dainty as to their daily tea than wealthy connoisseurs at home as over their Madeira and Burgundy. The Governor of Formosa pays from \$10 to \$20, per lb. for his tea. When I dined with him I justified the extravagance. The perfume filled the palace and the exquisite incomparable flavor lingered upon my palate hours after the meal was over. After drinking such a feast, a stout growth of Burgundy seems coarse and sordid.

Tea-drinkers at home may revel therefore in the fact that they will have better and cheaper tea in 1891-2 than they have had for a long time. Our Chinese merchants, however, derive but little benefit from this industry. At one time it poured a stream of wealth into Hongkong, but somehow or other the merchants grew careless and allowed the channel to be diverted to other nations.

The specialist is very painful to a public tea-drinker. The heavy capital with which the crops are raised, the experts who taste and the dealers who buy the leaf, the lead in which it is carried, the steamers in which it is carried, the companies which insure it, and the banks which attend to the financing, are all from, or of London.

THE MEMORIAL OF THE TSUNG-LI YAMEN.

The following is the N.C. Daily News' translation of the memorial to the Throne by the Tsung-Li Yamén on which the recent edict was issued. We understand that the Foreign Ministers have stipulated that it shall appear in full in the *Peking Gazette* in due course.

The Yamén Ministers on account of the riots against the foreign religions orders that have occurred in the various provinces, request the Throne to issue stringent orders to Governors-General and Governors to take immediate and urgent measures to restore quiet to the land and to prevent future disturbances. The memorialists hearing, in the first part of the 4th month, that churches in Wuhu were destroyed, at once wired to the High Superintendent of Yangtze to despatch gunboats to suppress the riot and to give protection to the foreigners; at the same time to send deputies to make investigations and settle the cases. Then at the same time, there were anonymous placards posted and rumors spread about Shanghai, Nanking, and other places. We also desired the Provincial authorities to take great care and to devise precautionary measures. Afterwards a telegraphic message was received from the Nanyang Superintendent and the Anhui Governor to the effect that the trouble at Wuhu took its origin from rumors that female doctors belonging to foreign religious orders were stealing children after drugging them; that the suspicions of the people could not be explained away; that a crowd gathered to make trouble; that upon this churches were burnt and destroyed; that two nuns were executed and their heads placed on exhibition; and that the place has settled down to its usual quiet. Not long after, however, churches in Yangyang and in Wusueh in Hupeh, were set on fire and pulled down, with the murder of two foreigners in the latter place. The details have not been reported. Evil characters were causing trouble in Nanking and Kiangtung, but their attempts were frustrated and they were dispersed by the Government soldiers who were keeping watch and gave protection. If these disturbances continue the hearts of both natives and foreigners will be full of apprehension and distrust. The reason is this. Discharged soldiers and secret societies are to be found everywhere. Placards are posted for the purpose of agitating and misleading the minds of the populace, as to find a favourable opportunity to create disturbances. It is certain no peaceful and law-abiding people are guilty of these acts. The memorialists find that the religion of the great West persuades people to follow the path of virtue. It has been promulgated in all the western countries for many years. Since China commenced commercial intercourse with foreign countries, the treaties stipulated that in China, the believers and promoters of the Roman Catholic and Protestant religions should enjoy one and all full protection both in person and property, and that they are permitted to congregate to offer prayers and to sing hymns. The hospitals for the sick and asylums for infants are all good works. Of late years in all the places in the different provinces visited by calamities there were many missionaries who contributed large sums and helped to alleviate the sufferings of the people. Their love to do good and their generosity in giving are certainly commendable. Though among the native convents good and bad are to be found, still they are subjects of China and are amenable to the jurisdiction of local authorities. In case of lawsuits and disputes missionaries can not interfere so that the people and religion ought to be able to live quietly side by side. Lovers of mischief often fabricate groundless rumors, and spread about and raise suspicions among the mass and evil-disposed persons cause trouble under these pretexts with the hope of plunder. Unless strict precautions are taken it is to be feared that Chinese and foreign merchants and people may not be able to live in peace. This has an important bearing upon the state of the country. The memorialists beg the Throne to order the Tatar Generals, Governors-General and Governors of every province to proclaim to the people, warning them not to listen lightly to change rumors nor to make trouble. In case anonymous placards are written and rumors are fabricated to mislead the people, stringent and severe measures should be adopted to arrest and severely punish the authors. The local authorities are to afford at all times protection to the merchants, people and missionaries of all nationalities and also their properties, with great care. Should their precautionary measures be ineffectual, or protection useless, let the higher authorities report them and have them cashiered or punished. As to the present outbreaks, the leaders of the Wuhu disturbance have been decapitated; the Governors-General and Governors of Kiangtung, Kiangsi, Kiangsu, Anhui, and Hupeh will be directed to disperse, cause and most severely punish the guilty leaders in connection with the riots at the other places so as to be a warning for the future. The previous unsettled cases of the various provinces let the Tatar Generals, Governors-General and Governor find means to settle as quickly as possible, and not permit their subordinates, apprehensive of responsibility, to cause further delay, so that matters which have accumulated may be cleared off.

THE PROSPECTS OF RICE IN SIAM.

It is probable that there will be a considerable advance in the value of good quality rice in the European market next summer, owing to the falling off of Japanese, Siamese and Cochinese exports; and it is reported that the deficiency is not likely to be met by an overplus from other rice-producing countries, such as Burma, Persia and Bengal. This, of course, means a loss to those countries whose produce is scarce; but as regards Siam it will not be without ultimate advantage if the merchants concerned will take steps to prevent the large admixture of broken rice of which Messrs. Fraser & Co. complained in their recently published market reports.

The quality of the Siam grain is complained of on account of the large admixture of broken rice; "most of the early shipments were excellent; but the after season's arrivals left much to be desired." "The shelled rice which arrived in London was very poor, and contained yellowish." "With a little more care bestowed on cultivation no doubt most of the Far Eastern mills will raise their standard." In this vein write those who are authorities on such matters and to these statements we would add that, in view of the unsettled fact that Japan kind occupies a prominent position in the rice supply of Europe, it would be to the advantage of Siam were large quantities of Japanese seed-grain imported, and distributed amongst the peasants of the chief rice-producing districts of this Kingdom. The Government, though out of pocket at first, would afterwards recoup the initial cost, through the Customs Department together with interest, in the course of a very few years. What benefits the masses, is to the ultimate advantage of the Government and the owner that fact is fully appreciated the better it will be for all who are paid to guard the welfare and best interests of Siam.

We shall return to this subject later on, and meanwhile append the return of the export of rice from Bangkok during the past month, merely prefixing the statistics with a statement

to the effect that, on account of the long-continued drought, the exports have fallen off considerably of late and are not likely to show signs of improvement for some time to come.

	Rice	Broken Rice	Paddy
pc. c.	pc. c.	pc. c.	pc. c.
Stock	96,050.66	285.99	1,876.80
Shanghai	96,051.23	285.99	1,876.80
Salmon	238.37		
Cost	238.37		

	Piculs	Value
165,523.30	2,730.56	\$1,876.80
Value \$207,947.10	\$1,465.60	\$2,064.48

Comparison with corresponding month of 1890.

	Value	Decrease
635,700.74	7,027.45	\$31.88
Value \$1,452,261.33	\$6,374.73	\$354.08
Decrease	530,177.35	2,870.00
Value	\$954,319.23	\$3,859.13

—Bangkok Times.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE MEKONG VALLEY.

HOW A BRITISH EXPLORER FOUND IT.

"Magna est veritas et prevalebit."

During the past two years the Press of the Far East has, from time to time, contained brief reports of the Upper Mekong Valley region; otherwise the Eastern frontier of Siam. Most of the stories, especially those appearing in *Tanquin* papers, contained somewhat graphic descriptions of the "magnificent valley," "the richest and most fertile regions of the Far East," whose richest untold and resources inexhaustible could have remained a *terra incognita*, even to neighbouring nations, but for the energy, enterprise, and determination of the French, and what is worse, its "myriad inhabitants" would be as told in the *Siam Mercantile Gazette* and *L'Avenir du Tonkin*, (two obscure prints, whose Editors have suddenly assumed the rôle of 19th century Savonarolas) "be steeped in ignorance, savagery, lawlessness, rapacity, and the evils of slave-hunting but for the determination of the French to deliver the down-trodden inhabitants from the grasp of unprincipled, grasping officials." All this looks well enough from an outsider's point of view, and it constitutes, more or less, interesting and sensational matter for the columns of public journals. When, however, it is viewed in the light of recent official statements and the commitment of himself to a "forward policy," by M. de Lannesson, the new Governor-General of French Indo-China, there is a plain duty before us and that is the task of publicly setting forth the truth about this alleged "land flowing with milk and honey," this so-called "El Dorado" of the Far East. With this object in view a representative of this journal called upon a gentleman (Mr. W. J. Archer of H.B.M. Consular Service) who has recently returned to Bangkok after a four months' journey in the Mekong Valley, and western frontiers of Siam. What this gentleman has to say about the Mekong Valley region, its people, the resources of Luang Phrabang region, the government of the country etc., etc., may, we think, be taken as the latest authentic information respecting a portion of the Kingdom of Siam which appears destined, whether deservedly or not, to make its mark in history, or rather form a conspicuous chapter in the records of 19th century episodes.

Before relating the evidence adduced at the interview so kindly accorded us, it may assist the reader to grasp the situation readily if we publish herewith a brief historical sketch of Siam, ancient and modern, gathered from the highest and most reliable sources of information, thus:

It was in the year 1767 that the old capital of Siam, Ayuthia, was destroyed; the king and his family taken prisoners, and his dynasty extinguished; the Shan and Laos States then became independent, and even Korat set up a separate kingdom, under a prince of the dynasty of Tenasserim was annexed by the Burmese invaders, to become, in 1824, a British province. The Siamese armies were dispersed and the Government thoroughly shattered. A general, Phya Tak, of Chinese descent, nevertheless gathered together the remnants of the troops, and drove the Burmese out of Ayuthia in 1767. He assumed the throne in 1768, re-conquering southern Siam Korat, northern Siam, and the Malay States, successively. He made Bangkok the capital in 1769, and founded modern Siam.

The first king of the present dynasty began to reign in 1782. A Chinese invasion of Burma, as stated in Mr. Robert Gordon's paper on Siam, resulted in the occupation of Martaban by the British in 1824, eventually, presented further Burmese invasions of Siam. Peace, thus secured, from outside, wars were utilized to reconstruct the kingdom. Chienkung, and all the Lao States to the confines of Yunnan, Tonquin, and Annam were conquered and attached to the kingdom. Winchong was the last State to make a desperate resistance, but was finally destroyed in 1825, and Luang Phrabang and Bassac were brought under direct Siamese rule, although the old chiefs are allowed to retain their titles and positions. *The Laos had driven the Camu, boddants out of their northern provinces, which were annexed to Siam, and what remained of the old empire of Siam, thus compelled, to acknowledge the pre-eminence of Siam.*

The first treaty concluded between Siam and a foreign Power, was an *amity* treaty in 1803, and is known as the "Burmese" treaty. This treaty became a dead letter, and the treaty under which British subjects conduct trade here is the one negotiated by Sir John Bowring, with the present King's father in 1825.

In reply to numerous questions Mr. Archer courteously vouchsafed the following interesting information:—On the boundaries of Siam I cannot answer you precisely, for, as you yourself state, there are unsettled disputes about the Eastern and Northern frontiers. In addition to that the British Government has not yet settled the question of the Shan-Siam frontier; although there are, it may be said, no elements connected with it that present possible or probable insuperable difficulties.

It is preposterous to state that the Lantian Phrabang region is magnificent. Certainly it is, as Mr. Parry, the Chief of the Siam Frontier Commission, must know very well. Probably, however, Mr. Macey, a Frenchman who has travelled all over that region with goods that he can find no market for, and is never likely to be able to barter on sell at a profit, can speak more authoritatively on the subject, than anyone else, for his experience has been anything but pleasant from a business man's point of view at all events. I have been up the Mekong as far as the French post at Moulmein, where I was received most hospitably, and I am bound to admit that Luang Phrabang, and the Lao country, seem to be the best governed and richest in Siam. There is, however, not much to be done in the way of government for the towns of Luang Phrabang, contains but 10,000 people at the outside, and the country for upwards of 100 miles around it, and away down the Mekong to Nong Kai, is extremely mountainous and very

inhabited. As to the alleged "sequencing" propensities of the officials and the mal-administration of justice, all I can say is that the officials who could squeeze a ten-cent piece out of the half-starved peasantry would be almost getting blood out of a stone. The fact is that the whole region is extremely mountainous, sparsely populated, very poor, and extremely unhealthy. All the peasants produce is "hill rice," cultivated in patches here and there along the slopes of huge mountain ranges. They produce barely enough for their wants, and what with the ravages of malarial fever of a violent type, and the time occupied in the cultivation of cotton on the hill-sides for use in winter (of which, too, there is a little exported to Yunnan) added to the time monopolized cultivating enough rice for bare subsistence, by the time winter sets in the hillside highlanders of Luang Phrabang have pretty hard fighting to get on in fine, by no means cut in a bed of roses, on the verge of rich gold-fields, or in a modern El Dorado.

(To be continued.)

FOOCHOW.

August 1st.

We understand that more than one of our foreign Consuls has telegraphed for a gunboat to be sent here promptly.

News has reached us, which however requires confirmation, that three foreign missionaries have been killed up country. We can only hope this is incorrect.

In reference to the above we would call special attention to the letter received this morning from Paderfator, and to the translation of the 10th Proclamation of the Tatar General and Governor General.

Rain is much needed to save the second crop of rice from total failure. The offering up of prayers has been gone through, and the prohibition to slaughter pigs for three days has been (albeit) intended to, but all to no effect so far. The farmers are in state bordering on despair.

Teamen are not, we understand, grumbling at the result of their ventures this year, indeed they are well satisfied with the outcome of common team and second crops; but it makes them wince to find that their profits are simply carried to their credit in account to meet the heavy losses of the past two years, instead of having them to put into their pockets.

The Emperor's birthday yesterday was observed by the closing of the Custom House and the Bazaar. In the city the mandarins paid their usual visit to the San Kowm to pay their respects to the Emperor, and in the evening grand banquets were given. Amongst the citizens, there were no outward demonstrations of rejoicing.

We are sorry to hear of numerous cases of thieving and robbery in the

PRESIDENT HARRISON RECOGNIZES THE BRILLIANT TALENTS OF TSIN CHING CHUNG.

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE.
SOMEBODY TO TALK FOR DR. BEDDOE.

Under the latter heading the *Philadelphia Press* announces that the President of the United States has appointed Mr. Tsin Ching Chung to be interpreter to the U. S. Consulate at Amoy. Now, all the Eastern world knows that in respect to American Consular representation, Amoy is the most favored port in all the Orient, for the interest and the wisdom there is not only the wisest and the wisest, but also the most "solid" representation that any foreign country can boast of in this part of the world to-day. In the person of Doctor Edward Beddoe, backed up as he is by his bright and cheerful and the Hon. W. E. S. Fales, Amoy has a Vice, well feel proud. But to let them might "Bosses" of the Consulate, for a time, to let them back to Tsin Ching Chung, the light of whose learning will be a great blessing to the Consulate.

Interpreter Tsin Ching Chung, the light of whose learning will be a great blessing to the Consulate. Tsin Ching Chung is a native of Canton and came to Hongkong at the age of 15. He was a student of the City of Rams alone can exhibit, however, was too misty for the ardent instincts and boundless desires of this rising young man who, at the age of 21, sought fresh fields and pastures new in the broad lands of the United States, where he completed his education and in due course became a naturalized citizen of that great country. His early training in the Norwich Connecticut Academy gained in the Norwich Connecticut Academy from which institution he graduated with high honors, receiving first prize for rhetoric and declamation—no light feat this, for a foreigner to perform. He subsequently followed out a course of scientific studies at Yale, and had the proud distinction of being the only Chinese graduate from that distinguished College. Besides his other brilliant accomplishments Ching has the mastery of nine languages. He also possesses an absolute knowledge of both Chinese and American laws, and to this as well as to the fact that he is a most enthusiastic American Citizen led to his nomination, by Doctor Beddoe, to the Amoy Consulate.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

THE MEKONG VALLEY QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." SIR, In these days when certain French colonial Chauvinists—counting upon the alleged legerdemain of the (Siamese) nation—talk so glibly of the necessary (if) spoliation of Siam; and at a time when Saigon and Haiphong newspapers openly advocate such a policy, it is certainly reassuring to a portion of the foreign community to find that Siam is preparing to guard herself against any encroachments from the Annam-Tonquin quarter.

Now that their Royal Highnesses Krom Mun Bhejrit, Krom Mun Prachin, and Prince Sanprasi, all energetic men, have been charged with administering the affairs of the lower, middle and upper Mekong regions, respectively; and while his Excellency Phya Surisak is bound in the same direction, it is to be hoped that our lively friends across the border will cease to cast long eyes upon the said territories, or to trouble their brains about "dispelling the cimmerian darkness," which, according to our local oracle, "Still wraps this magnificent valley in its sable mantle," the finding of new trade routes, the ascension of rapids and other fatiguing and risky work, they had better leave to the Siamese, and rest a while on the laurels they have earned. As regards the inhabitants of these regions, and the efforts to prove that the Laosians would welcome French protection in the place of Siamese rule, a Laosian prince to whom I lately spoke, simply ridiculed the idea, stating that the Laosians dread France owing to that Power having appropriated Annam and Tonquin.

It should, however, be borne in mind that while volatile French politicians have, in their fertile brains, already sliced Siam, and while the Press of Indo-China terms with sinister allusions, the French Government remains in a passive mood, thus assuring the amicable relations hitherto maintained between Siam and France.

Considering, however, that it is the constitutional policy of France, to increase her power and influence in the Far East, one cannot help asking why the Siamese Government has so long delayed coming to a definite settlement with France in regard to the delimitation of the Annam boundaries?

In the old times, under the French Empire, France would have been glad enough to stick to the strip of land along the Annam sea coast; under the Jules Ferry regime, M. de Kergorlay actually proposed to Siam; the watershed of the Mekong as the boundary. And it was only the other day that a French politician stated "our Indo-China possessions are incomplete without the incorporation of Siam."

The sooner the boundary question is definitely settled, the better for Siam and those States whose merchants have bona fide commercial interests at stake.

I am, Sir,

Yours truly,

A. Z.

Bangkok, 16th July, 1891.

NOTES FROM CHINESE PAPERS.

The Governor of Peking has received instructions from a certain Prince to close the coal mines in the western part of the city on account of many people stealing the coal.

The water has risen over a foot in the Yangtze near Chinkiang, and mountain torrents swollen by the recent heavy rains are doing much damage in places close by. Houses at the foot of the hills have been washed away and many villages have followed. Communication between some places has entirely ceased.

Preparations are being made in Nanking to receive the Chief and Vice Literary Chancellors appointed to conduct the triennial examinations of the Kiangnan, Kiangsi and Anhui Bachelors of Arts. They will arrive shortly and their quarters will be at the Tung-wen College, the students of which have been temporarily removed to a temple.

In a village near Kluikang a man and his brother's wife quarrelled. The woman did not waste many words, but seizing a knife gave her brother-in-law several severe wounds. The wounded man grew desperate, wrenched the knife from her hand and ran through her neck, killing her instantly. The murderer reported his own case and is awaiting trial.

Eighteen men rescued from junks that were wrecked on the coast of Shanghai were sent by the Chinese Customs to Shanghai.

They stated before the magistrate that after the junks were wrecked all the cargo was plundered by the natives living on the coast. Legal proceedings are being taken against the marauders. The junk owners have been communicated with and will take charge of the wrecked crews.

Sheng Tai, Resident at Tibet, reports the return from that country of the Nepalese Envoy to the Court of China. The Missionary journey from Tibet, which set out on its return journey from Tibet on the 7th of November, 1889, arrived in Anterior Tibet on the 10th of August, 1890. The Envoy at once called on the Resident and reported to him the deep sense of the mission which he had filled at his most arduous task. He had been entrusted with the mission to convey to his master, as also for the presents which had been bestowed on himself and his suite. All along the route cattle and provisions had been most liberally furnished, extreme care had been displayed by the troops appointed for their protection, and the journey in every way had, thanks to the gracious kindness of His Imperial Majesty, been performed with the greatest comfort.

The expressions of his gratitude appearing to the memorialist to be sincere, he as usual entertained them at a banquet and made them presents of silks, cloth, tea, silver medals, sheep, rice, flour, etc., and moreover sent them to the Nepalese Prince and his court presents of the number of his suite. Some of their number had suffered from exposure to cold on the way and rested in Tibet until they recovered from the effects of the journey. Eventually on the 10th of April, 1891, they set out from Tibet under escort of a guard furnished by the memorialist, which included several soldiers conversant with the Nepalese tongue.

BANGKOK NEWS.

H. I. E. M. S. *Stowack*, Capt. A. Flaklin, the war-ship that arrived here on Monday evening last, the 15th July, as the bearer of the Russian Order of St. Andrew to H. M. the King of Siam, is a steel twin-screw steamer of 1,200 tons register, with engines of the double compound surface condensing type which develop 1,200 horse-power, nominal. Her armament consists of one nine inch, one six inch, and six four-and-a-half inch guns, of the "Gobshoff" make; four Hotchkiss guns, and ten torpedoes. The crew of the vessel is composed of 150 men and nine officers, besides 30 Chinese servants from Vladivostok.

H. M. the King turned the first sod of a Siamese railway, the Bangkok-Paknam line, on the 15th July. His Majesty has subscribed half of the capital necessary to construct and equip the line, and the contractors have to hand over the railway, steam up, on the 1st April 1893. The Siam Electric Light Company, we are informed, confidently expect to commence supplying the new illuminant early next week. This blessing of the thanks of the general public and shareholders in the Company will be due to the hard and conscientious work of the engineers and linemen who have worked day and night in erecting the light generators, machinery, insulators, dynamos, and numbers of things we wot not of. The slight delay which has occurred in the opening of the works has been due to the regrettable indisposition of Mr. A. W. Lawson, the able Superintending Engineer.

Between noon on Monday and noon yesterday 14 inches of rain fell at Bangkok which has sufficed for the farmers to commence ploughing in earnest. But much more rain is requisite before the planting out of the rice can be effected. However, the temperature is much lower (80 deg. F. yesterday forenoon) than it has been for the past three months, the sky is overcast, and there is every prospect of a considerable rainfall during the current month.

As we have often pointed out, Bangkok is a veritable El Dorado for the young, aspiring lawyer who wishes to "flash his back." And, in acquiring riches beyond the dreams of avarice, he acquires the habit of spending. In H.B.M. Court, suits and trials in connection with perjury, forgery, rape, murder, larceny, bankruptcies, etc., ad lib., cumbersome bankruptcies from which the debtors are yet expected to rise phoenix-like—as we hope they will. It's a very ill wind, especially in Siam, that blows no one a wee bit of good.—*Bangkok Times*.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Canton, 3rd August, 1891.

The typhoon which threatened Hongkong yesterday has not been felt here to-day beyond the force of a full gale of wind, which commenced early this morning. The *Powan* felt the full force of the gale during the night, lying comfortably at anchor in Castle Peak Bay, and left at 5 a.m. when the wind moderated and barometer fell. When the wind moderated and barometer fell, it went down as far as 29.50 began to rise, and came up in about six hours with wind and tide in her favor, showing the old craft to be as staunch, and, as well to the fore, as of yore. The whole of the level country on either side of the river for miles inland is inundated, but having, thanks to Dr. Doberok, had timely warning of the blow, the Chinese had taken all precaution and not a single accident to junk or boat is reported, or was sighted.

The steamship *Anger Head* passed down from Whampoa at 10.30 a.m. having completed her discharge of Krupp guns.

There has been some difficulty between the outgoing and incoming Provincial Treasurers in settling their cash balances, but this, not an unusual occurrence with such officials in China, is expected to be adjusted in a day or two when the late incumbent will leave for Hankow to take up his post as Provincial Treasurer of Hupoh under the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung. Like a prudent man the old Fantai took advantage of an opportunity, under cover of the excuse of officially inspecting the Bogus forts, to convey his savings, reported at Tientsin 1,000,000, to Hongkong, and safely deposited the same in the Banks there, previous to his successor's arrival. At the time of the *Powan's* departure 5 p.m. it was still blowing a fairly live gale with heavy rain, with the barometer stationary at 29.60.

NOTICE.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE,

IN BANKRUPTCY,

Re ADAMSON, BELL & Co.

TELEGRAPHIC instructions have been received from Mr. GEORGE WYNDHAM, Official Receiver, High Court of Justice, London, authorizing the undersigned to act on his behalf in all matters pertaining to the above estate. All Creditors of the said firm at Hongkong are hereby requested to forward particulars of their claims to the undersigned, and all Debtors to the said firm are hereby notified that payment may only be made to the undersigned.

Dated this 11th day of July, 1891.
DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.

For Sale.

"CRUWYNBORN,"
THE BEST BREAKFAST CLARET,
at
\$1.00 a dozen.
"ST. GEORGE'S,"
A SOUND BREAKFAST CLARET,
at
\$2.50 a dozen.
\$0.25 allowance for 1 doz. Empty Bottles returned.
Samples sent on application.
G. GIRAUULT,
(Late GUYU FRERES),
No. 8, Queen's Road,
Hongkong, 30th July, 1891. [1053]

INTIMATION.

F. Blackhead & Co.,
SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAIL-MAKERS,
AND PROVISION MERCHANTS,
NAVY CONTRACTORS, &
GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS
No. 11, Praya Central,
(Opposite Pedder's Wharf).

SOLE AGENTS FOR

RAHTY'S GENUINE COMPOSITION

THE BOTTOMS OF IRON SHIPS.

HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT, specially manufactured for coating the inside of STEEL SHIPS.

SPECIALY SELECTED.
EX. PRIME, PORK AND BEEF in Barrels.

Also
AMERICAN PRIME SUGAR-CURED
HAMS AND BACON.

CHR. MOTZ & Co., BORDEAUX CLARETS,
CIMENT from the celebrated Factory of Hemmoor.

FLensburg STOCK BEER,
ENGINEERS' AND BLACKSMITHS'
MACHINERY AND TOOLS.

EVERY KIND OF
SHIPS' STORES AND REQUISITES
ALWAYS IN STOCK

AT
REASONABLE PRICES.
ALL KINDS OF COALS
SUPPLIED AT THE SHORTEST NOTICE.

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Intimations.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Ordinary Half-yearly MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held in the Offices of the Company, No. 14, Praya Central, on MONDAY, the 24th August, at Three p.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Accounts to the 30th June, 1891.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 10th to 24th of August, both days inclusive.
By Order of the Board of Directors,
D. GILLIES,
Secretary. [1075]

Hongkong, 4th August, 1891.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE.

IT has been decided to discontinue the weekly competitions at the Kowloon Ranges during the months of August and September. The ranges will, however, be open for practice as hitherto.

J. ANDERSON,
Acting Hon. Secretary. [1075]

HONGKONG TIMBER

YARD, WANCHAI.

OREGON PINE SPARS AND LUMBER

Always on Hand. L. MALLORY.
Hongkong, 24th June, 1891. [1002]

S I E N T I N G,

SURGEON DENTIST,

No. 10, D'AGUIAR STREET.
TERMS VERY MODERATE.

Consultation free. [448]

DENTISTRY.

FIRST CLASS WORKMANSHIP

AND

MODERATE FEES.

M R. WONG TAI-FONG,

Surgeon Dentist,
(Formerly attached to the Amoy and latterly assistant to Dr. ROGERS),
HAS REMOVED

TO
THE BANK-BUILDINGS,
QUEEN'S ROAD,
(above Messrs. Dakin Bros. of China, Ltd.).

CONSULTATION FREE. [459]

NOTICE.

JAY'S SANITARY COMPOUNDS

COMPANY, LIMITED.

JAY'S WOOD PRESERVER OR

ANTISEPTIC PAINT.

THE undersigned have this day been appointed SOLE AGENTS for the sale of these PERFECT DISINFECTANTS, and are prepared to supply quantities to suit purchasers, at Wholesale Prices. Extra Special terms for Shipping and large Orders.

Sole Agents, Local Government Board, London, says.

"It is the best Disinfectant in use."

W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.,
Bank Buildings.

Hongkong, 19th June, 1888. [13]

W. S. MARTEN,

ARTISTIC DECORATOR,

2, DUDDELL STREET,
HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 6th April, 1890. [12]

Dr. Knorr's

ANTIPYRINE.

(Dose for Adults 15 to 25 grains 4 times a day.)

IS the most approved and most efficacious remedy in cases of HEADACHE, MIGRAINE, NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, FEVER, TYPHUS, ERYSIPELAS, HOOPING-COUGH, and many other complaints. It is also the very best Antiseptic. Highly recommended by the medical Faculty. To be had from every reputable Chemist and Druggist. Ask for Dr. KNORR'S ANTIPYRINE! Each Tin bears the inventor's signature, "Dr. KNORR" in red letters.

Supplies constantly on hand at the China Export, Import, and Bank Co.—Sole Agents for China. Beware of spurious imitations!

Hongkong, 20th May, 1888. [452]